

# iPhone, iPad & Android Apps magazine™

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No.60

OVER  
**367**  
AMAZING APPS  
INSIDE



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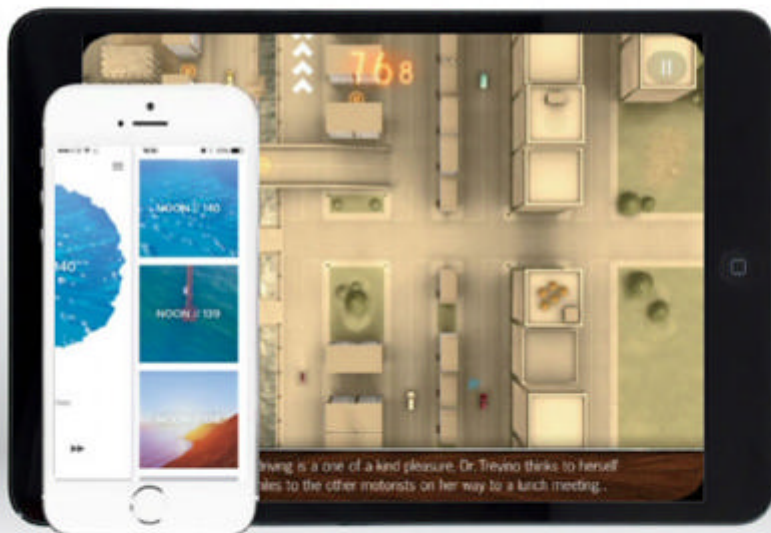
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# WELCOME TO APPS MAGAZINE

Your essential apps guide every issue



## The team recommends...

### DAN HUTCHINSON

Editor in Chief



If you love music, check out *Noon Pacific* (page 23). It offers a new ten-track playlist for you to stream every Monday, at noon (Pacific Time). Hence the name.

### JACK PARSONS

Editor



Discover an easier way to sort your pictures and auto-enhance them with *Google Photos*, with our review on page 27 and our in-depth tutorial from page 42.

### JAMIE FRIER

Contributor



*Does not Commute* (page 39) is one of the oddest - and most addictive - strategy games we've played in a while.

### OLIVER HILL

Contributor



Do you want to learn a language, but struggle with studying? *Tandem* (page 28) makes learning fun by video chatting with native speakers.



### DOES NOT COMMUTE

● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Freemium | v1.2.0  
● Android | OS 2.3 | Freemium | v1.2.0



### GOOGLE PHOTOS

● iPhone | iOS 8.1 | Free | v1.0.1  
● Android | OS 4.0 | Free | v1.0



### NOON PACIFIC

● iPhone+ | iOS 8.2 | Free | v3.0  
● Android | OS 2.3.3 | Free | v0.0.1



### TANDEM

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v1.2.2

The future of the iPhone and iPad arrives this autumn, but why you should you wait? Apple gave us a glimpse of what to expect at their WWDC conference. A keynote speech and lots of arty videos announced your device will soon have a smarter Siri, a new look *Notes* and *Maps* apps, and an all-new way to read the news. Select iPads will even be getting a split-screen mode to run more than one app at a time. But as soon as Apple revealed these exciting features, they just as quickly snatched them back confirming the update won't arrive until September. If you can't wait that long, head to page 14 and discover 25 amazing apps that can bring all

of iOS 9's features to your old iPhone or iPad today.

Off on holiday? Then check out our top summer apps from page 18.

*Jack Parsons*

apps@imagine-publishing.co.uk



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# HOW WE REVIEW

- OPERATING SYSTEM**  
Certain apps only work on specific operating systems; check your device meets the specifications here.
- PRICE**  
We list the most up-to-date price possible, but check before purchasing. Note that free apps may still require some in-app purchases.
- FORMAT**  
Some apps are specific to iPhone or iPad, however if listed with a plus symbol, apps will work on both devices.
- VERSION**  
We always review the latest versions of apps when going to publication, but bear in mind issues we outline may be fixed in updated versions.

# IN TOUCH

APPS ★ PEOPLE ★ GEAR



GET EXCITED ABOUT...

## CORTANA FOR iOS AND ANDROID

CAN MICROSOFT'S VIRTUAL ASSISTANT CHALLENGE SIRI AND GOOGLE NOW FOR DOMINANCE ON THEIR OWN DEVICES?

Microsoft's answer to Siri and Google Now, Cortana, is expanding beyond the Windows Phone to come to iOS and Android as a dedicated app.

The Windows-brand personal assistant will be included in a free download called *Phone Companion*, which Microsoft says will arrive on the Google Play Store at the end of June or in early July, and on the iPhone this autumn.

"Part of the power of a personal assistant comes from being available on the go, on the device you carry with you everywhere," said Joe Belfiore, corporate vice president of Microsoft's Operating Systems Group, when announcing *Phone Companion*. "And for people who don't have the benefit of a Windows Phone, we want to extend the advantage of Cortana in Windows 10."

On Windows Phones Cortana has many of the same features as Google Now on Android: it can send reminders and notifications, provide timely traffic and weather information, search the web and, on some devices, lets you launch apps using a voice command. Belfiore said that most

of these features will be available on its competitors' mobile operating systems, too. Also, the app will offer Windows 10 users something similar to Apple's Handoff, which enables you to start a task on a Mac and finish it on an iPad or iPhone (and vice versa).

What the Cortana app won't do is let you launch apps on non-Windows platforms (though Microsoft hinted that it might add this functionality later). Nonetheless, Cortana speaks to Microsoft's recognition of how important mobile integration is to continued success as a computing power.

However, at time of writing, there has been no official response from Microsoft to suggest this cross-platform version of Cortana will have any new features to compete with iOS 9 and Android M's new context-aware features, Siri Proactive and Google Now-on-Tap respectively.

### PHONE COMPANION

- Android | Coming this summer
- iPhone | Coming this autumn



### HAILING FREQUENCIES OPEN

This icon is like Google Now's red circle or Siri's undulating waveform: it shows when Cortana is active and changes colour when she is listening to your voice input.

### EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Cortana keeps track of what you have planned for your day and the things that might affect it, such as the weather, traffic and your entertainment options. She can also give you updates and notifications every morning.

### INFORMATION ON DEMAND

Cortana can display other useful information upon request, too, such as maps, reminders and flight tracking. Your interests, music searches, favourite places and other settings are saved in Cortana's Notebook and are accessible across all your devices.

### "HEY, CORTANA"

Cortana has been designed to search the web in response to voice prompts. The Windows Phone version lets you type or speak your request and Cortana then looks for the answer using Bing.

## OTHER APPS AT YOUR SERVICE

### SIRI

Siri is technically not an app but an integrated part of iOS on recent iPhone and iPad models. Because of this reason, it is not available on other mobile platforms. The current version of Siri doesn't provide custom notifications and its speech recognition could be better, but it does have a sense of humour... just make sure you don't ask it what the meaning of life is.

● iPhone | iOS 5.0 | N/A | N/A

### GOOGLE SEARCH

Google has attempted to go one better with Google Now by including notifications and timely information in their *Google* app for iOS. Google's virtual assistant can also be activated without touching the screen by saying "Okay, Google". Word recognition is impressive but some features are only available on Android devices.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v6.0.0  
● Android | Varies | Free | Varies

### EVI

This Siri clone is attractive, fast and accurate, which is more than can be said for apps of its kind. You can also rate its responses (which is helpful for other users) and it is the nearest thing that Android fans in the US and UK will get to using one of iOS's flagship features.

● iPhone+ | iOS 5.0 | Free | v1.2.8  
● Android | OS 2.3  
| Free | v1.2.41.0\_1024610

### 24ME

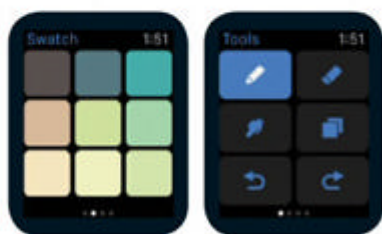
This app doesn't have voice activation features like Google Now and Siri but it's still impressively comprehensive and versatile. It acts as a centralised hub for your calendar, task list, notes and some social media accounts, and provides alerts of important events. You can also program it to autocomplete tasks.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v3.8.0  
● Android | OS 4.0 | Free | v1.070



# THE POWER OF CREATION, SIMPLIFIED

Savage Interactive CEO and cofounder James Cuda on why bringing Procreate to the Apple Watch was a no-brainer



## PROCREATE POCKET

Made by the developers of the award-winning Procreate for iPad, Procreate Pocket enables you to sketch and illustrate concepts on the move, anywhere you find inspiration.

● iPhone+ | iOS 8.2 | £2.29/\$2.99



find out why developers have been flocking to the device, we caught up with drawing app Procreate Pocket creator, James Cuda.

### What convinced you to start developing apps for the Apple Watch? Was it a natural fit for Procreate?

The main motivating factor in developing for Apple Watch was screen real-estate. Procreate Pocket dedicates almost all of its screen real-estate to the canvas, leaving very little room to display features such as colour swatches.

Apple Watch enabled us to push two of these critical functions, Tools and Swatches, to the new screen space. Our extension was inspired by the traditional wooden artists' palette. For instance, Swatches mode displays a number of paint 'wells' ready for the artist to use. The perfect placement of Apple Watch enables artists to bring digital paint to the canvas by simply touching a colour. It's a really natural extension to the Procreate Pocket experience.

### Were any parts of the development process particularly challenging or restrictive?

WatchKit is pretty cool and very easy to develop for, and it's only at version one. I think the only process which was restrictive was this interface design. That said, there is an element of freedom to be found in the restriction. With a very focused interface guideline, designers don't need to continually reinvent the wheel when trying to solve interface problems. Instead, they can focus on creating a beautiful experience for customers.

### On the other side of the coin, how has Apple opened up the process?

One of the easiest parts of developing for Apple products is the consistency. Compared to developing for other platforms, the APIs are more consistent, the device platforms are far

less fragmented, and in general the devices are better performing. This enables us to target our development to make the absolute most of the hardware available.

### What has the response been like from Apple Watch owners?

It's hard for us to tell what percentage of Procreate Pocket sales our Apple Watch extension makes up, but the response from customers has been relatively good. The Procreate Pocket Apple Watch app has been described as innovative and intuitive to use. We're looking forward to more feedback as the number of Apple Watch users grow.

### Would you encourage other app developers to take a serious look at the Apple Watch and smartwatches in general?

Absolutely. Wearing a computer has huge potential and serious implications for the future, and developers can jump in and help shape the future right now.

### What are your plans for the Apple Watch going forward?

We'll be supporting our Procreate Apple Watch extension for the foreseeable future and possibly redesigning it, if and when native Apple Watch apps become a thing.

### Could you envisage a day where the Apple Watch is as popular as the iPhone is now?

I see them as two separate types of technology which solve very different problems.

For instance, when I go for a bike ride, I just take my Apple Watch and listen to music. I'd never take my huge iPhone 6 Plus with me – it's too bulky and heavy for that purpose. Conversely, I use my iPhone 6 Plus to draw and sketch ideas, because the watch screen is too small and the processor isn't designed for heavy computational work such as graphically accelerated painting!

It's hard to say if the Apple Watch will ever be as ubiquitous as the iPhone, but I do expect it to continue to grow in popularity over future iterations, as the iPhone has done. Both devices are pretty cool, but for different reasons.

**“ONE OF THE EASIEST PARTS OF DEVELOPING FOR APPLE PRODUCTS IS THE CONSISTENCY”**

## 05 BEST APPLE WATCH APPS

### CITYMAPPER

The ultimate real-time public transport app for London, Manchester

Singapore and more!  
● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0  
| Free | v 5.4  
● Android | Varies  
| Free | Varies

### CLEAR

Clear is the revolutionary reminders app that makes you more productive. The Apple Watch extension makes it even simpler to tick off your to-do list.

● iPhone+ | iOS 8.0  
| £3.99/\$4.99 | v 1.7

### PCALC

PCalc is a powerful, scientific calculator app. While the Apple Watch extension isn't as advanced, it does include a simple tool for splitting restaurant bills.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0  
| £7.99/\$9.99 | v3.4.1

### TWITTERIFFIC 5

Twitterrific is an award-winning Twitter client for iOS. The Apple Watch version also boasts a lot more customisation features than the official Twitter Apple Watch app.

● iPhone+ | iOS 8.0  
| Freemium | v 5.12

### DAY ONE

A journal for the digital age, Day One lets you record life as you live it. The smartwatch extension makes it easy to check in to places and dictate notes.

● iPhone+ | iOS 8.0  
| £3.99/\$4.99 | v 1.17



HOW TO...

# BOOST YOUR BRAIN

## USE APPS TO GET YOUR GREY MATTER IN TOP GEAR

At some point in our lives we all probably fear that our mental faculties will wane as we get older. Keeping our brains sharp is important at any age, however, in order to make the most of every opportunity. It's not just about getting smart, too; in our busy schedules we can benefit from better multitasking ability, rapid responses, flexible thinking and a reliable memory. Apps could help us in several ways if we put our minds to it.



### 01 Test yourself

Small lifestyle changes can lead to a healthier brain, according to neuroscientist Dr. Paul Nussbaum's Fit Brains programme. Download the *Brain Health Lifestyle Assessment* app, answer the questions honestly and get your Lifestyle Score.



### 02 Embrace change

Once you've seen your score, swipe down to the lifestyle headings. If you have a low percentage on any of these, tap on the heading and read hints on behavioural changes you should try out. Then, after six months, take the test again.



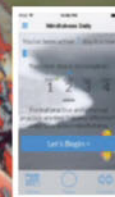
### 03 Hit the gym

*Fit Brains Trainer* is meant to sharpen cognitive functions with a personalised daily brain fitness programme made up of clever minigames. Open the app and answer some basic questions to optimise your brain training program.



### 04 Stay sharp

Next, tap Continue to start your training, which will focus on areas of your brain that you chose earlier in the calibration questions. Make sure you follow the programme daily so your brain gets a challenging but fun workout regularly.



### 05 Keep calm

Like your body, your brain needs breaks to be at its best. There is evidence that mindfulness meditation reduces stress so get the *Mindfulness Daily* app and set times in the day when you'll apply its techniques to clear your head.



### 06 Sleep on it

Enough sleep is also necessary for a tip-top brain. Set an alarm in *Sleep Time+* and it will wake you at the optimum point in your sleep cycle close to what you set. Get about eight hours of sleep and you should wake up sharp and alert.

## APPS USED

### FIT BRAINS TRAINER



This companion app to Lifestyle Assessment is great fun.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0  
| Freemium | 3.5.2  
● Android | Varies  
| Freemium | Varies

★★★★★

### MINDFULNESS DAILY



Taking a few minutes out of each day for quiet time can only be a good thing. This app makes that process easy and pleasant.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.1  
| £1.49/\$1.99 | v1.065

★★★★★

### SLEEP TIME+



With this app you can record your sleep pattern as well as set flags to stop your brain from switching off.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0  
| £1.49/\$1.99 | v3.6

★★★★★

### FINAL THOUGHT

Many apps claim to boost brain power through mental exercises and meditation. Some are based on established science but there is little evidence that they improve cognitive ability in the long run. But they won't dumb you down and they don't take up a lot of time, so it's not a bad idea to try them.



**COMPETITION**

# WIN! JABRA ROX WIRELESS EARBUDS!

## UNLEASH YOUR MUSIC LISTENING WITH THESE DOLBY SOUND HEADPHONES

There is nothing worse than having to unwrap headphone cables, when all you want to do is listen to your music. And no matter how carefully you store them when they're not in use, or what clever trick you try to stop them from tangling up again, they always do. But it doesn't have to be that way.

Thanks to our friends at Jabra, we have a pair of Jabra Rox earbuds to give away. These stylish Bluetooth headphones wirelessly connect with your smartphone or laptop to offer six hours of music listening. Made from solid steel, they also have a built-in mute button, so you can toggle music on and off with ease, and a microphone so you can respond to phone calls hands-free.

To pump full-spectrum Dolby Sound-quality listening out of your Rox earbuds, you can also download the free *Jabra Sound* app for iPhone. The app can also be used to create and browse through playlists, share music on Facebook or Twitter and adjust the graphic equaliser so you can play your tracks as you want to hear them.

For one lucky runner-up, we have a Jabra Solemate. Highly portable and packing two powerful, front-facing speakers, the Solemate works via Bluetooth. It will also work with the *Jabra Sound* app to provide Dolby Sound quality.

To win one of these prizes, all you have to do is just answer the following question.

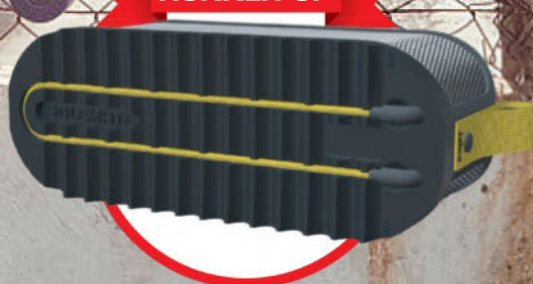
**Q** WHAT IS THE NAME OF JABRA'S LATEST EARBUDS?  
**A:** ROX **B:** ROCKS **C:** REX

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**FIRST PRIZE**



**RUNNER UP**



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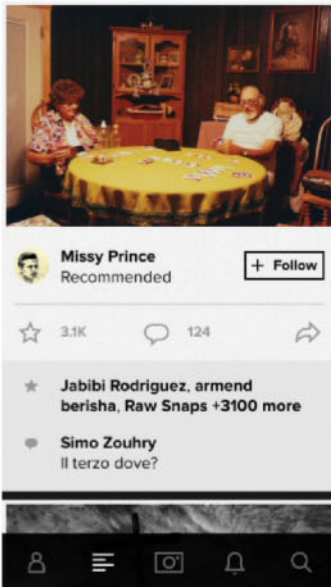


## MY HOME SCREEN

## THE PHOTOGRAPHER

## APPS THAT PUT YOU IN THE FRAME FOR TOP SHOTS

Whether you use a traditional camera or take pictures on a smartphone, it usually needs more than just a quick look through the viewfinder to capture a great photo. Luckily, you no longer need fancy gear to do things like measure the light, bracket exposures or record yourself in front of a landmark. With the ten apps featured here you'll find yourself capturing awesome images in a snap.



## FLICKR

## ALTERNATIVE TO: MESSAGES

*Instagram* is the home of square snaps while *Flickr* is perfect for photographers who want a broader social experience. With this app you can upload and share pictures of any shape and engage with Yahoo's photographic community.

● **iPhone+** | **iOS 8.0** | **Free** | **v4.0.2**  
● **Android** | **Varies** | **Free** | **Varies**

## GEOTAG PHOTOS PRO

## ALTERNATIVE TO: REMINDERS

Use this handy app to automatically record comprehensive photo metadata on the go. Upload your photos using the website or desktop app to have them automatically sorted by trip.

● **iPhone+** | **iOS 7.0**  
| **£2.99/\$3.99** | **v3.8**  
● **Android** | **OS 1.6**  
| **£3.29/\$3.99** | **v3.7.1**

## CAROUSEL BY DROPBOX

## ALTERNATIVE TO: PHOTOS

*Carousel* displays an integrated chronological gallery of your camera roll photos and pictures backed up to Dropbox. Images are sorted by date and location and browsed with a timeline sidebar.

● **iPhone+** | **iOS 7.0**  
| **Freemium** | **v1.12**  
● **Android** | **OS 4.0.3**  
| **Freemium** | **v1.12.1**

## THE PHOTOGRAPHER'S EPHEMERIS

## ALTERNATIVE TO: MAPS

This is packed with information on landscapes and the sky. Its maps show data such as time of sunrise and shadow lengths.

● **iPhone+** | **iOS 7.0**  
| **£6.99/\$8.99** | **v3.1.4**  
● **Android** | **OS 2.3.3**  
| **£3.22/\$4.99** | **v1.2.1**

## MYLIGHTMETER FREE

## ALTERNATIVE TO: NOTES

This attractive app mimics how an old-school light metre would look and work. It also provides an easy way to measure exposure settings. It's simple really, just select your ISO, point the lens at your subject, tap Measure and then read off the shutter speed and f-stop.

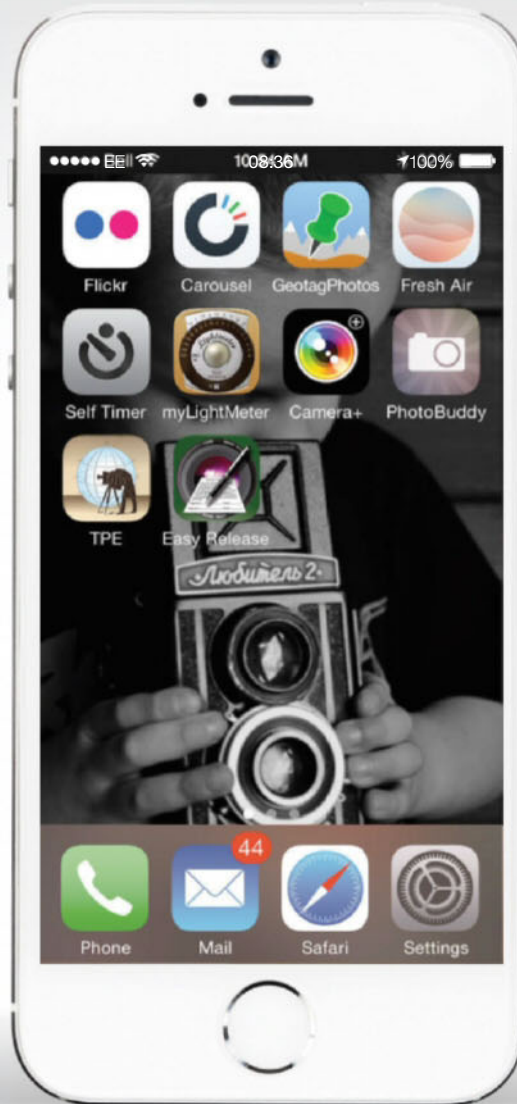
● **iPhone** | **iOS 5.1** | **Free** | **1.1.6**

## EASY RELEASE - MODEL RELEASES

## ALTERNATIVE TO: STOCKS

This app is for anyone who needs professional agreements for image rights when travelling. You can embed an image copy of the document and print, email or save a PDF signed by all parties.

● **iPhone+** | **iOS 5.0**  
| **£7.99/\$9.99** | **v3.1.1**  
● **Android** | **OS 2.1**  
| **£7.84/\$9.99** | **v1.8.141212**



## SELF TIMER

## ALTERNATIVE TO: CLOCK

The stock *Camera* app and *Camera+* have self-timers but this app also has a multiple shots option that enables you to set the camera to take several pictures in a single sequence, and that's even after you've set a delay of up to 60 seconds. It's ideal for selfies.

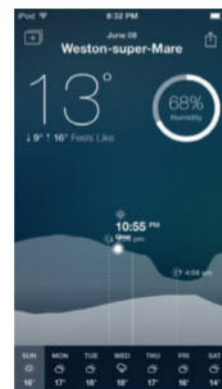
● **iPhone+** | **iOS 6.0**  
| **£1.49/\$1.99** | **v4.0**

## CAMERA+

## ALTERNATIVE TO: CAMERA

This app includes the same features as the iPhone's native *Camera* app plus a whole lot more, including macro, cropping, burst and self-timer settings, image stabilisation, exposure adjustment, zoom and a real-time horizon level. Its Clarity feature is astonishingly good too.

● **iPhone+** | **iOS 7.0**  
| **£2.29/\$2.99** | **v6.3**

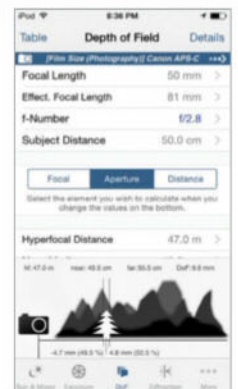


## FRESH AIR

## ALTERNATIVE TO: WEATHER

What makes this attractive app great if you take outdoor photos is its ability to provide forecasts of weather and cloud cover for any time of the day. It can also provide you with useful forecasts for any upcoming events in your calendar.

● **iPhone+** | **iOS 7.0**  
| **Free** | **2.0.2**



## PHOTOBUDDY

## ALTERNATIVE TO: CALCULATOR

As you go after the perfect photo, you will need to weigh up various camera settings, many of which are packed into this app. There are tabs for exposure, depth-of-field, diffraction and presets to make things a lot easier when out shooting.

● **iPhone+** | **iOS 7.0**  
| **£1.49/\$1.99** | **v1.30**

"FLICKR IS PERFECT FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS WHO WANT A BROADER SOCIAL EXPERIENCE"

## GEAR ROUNDUP

### SPHERO DARKSIDE OLLIE

While Darkside Ollie's controls are relatively easy to learn on either an iOS or Android device, the high speeds that it can achieve do take a little getting used to. The robust build of the unit means it can withstand collisions and it's fantastic to perform spins or even drifts in the knowledge that your robot will remain in tact. All this fun does come at a price, however, with just over an hour of battery life available between charges.

★★★★★

£99.99/\$153.49 | Sphero | [firebox.com](http://firebox.com)

### IRIG UA

Recording songs through your Android device has never been easy, so the iRig is potentially game changing. The unit itself records and processes any connected guitar with near enough zero latency, providing users with high-quality playback at decent overall volume levels. The finished recording can then be edited and used with other instruments to create a track; including USB microphones. Despite it being targeted at a niche audience, budding musicians need to check this out.



★★★★★

£89.99/\$99.99 | IK Multimedia | [ikmultimedia.com](http://ikmultimedia.com)

### TYLT VÜ

Wireless charging is a highly useful feature of many Qi-enabled smartphones, so the TYLT VÜ will certainly have its followers. The sturdy stand and charging combination sits at an angle that makes it easier to view your smartphone while charging in either portrait or landscape, but there's no scope to adjust the stand itself, which limits it to a certain degree. However, this is a charger at its core and you really can't complain at the rapid charging levels the VÜ is capable of.

★★★★★

£63.69/\$69.99 | Tylt | [www.tylt.com](http://www.tylt.com)

### TWELVESOUTH HIRISE FOR APPLE WATCH

As one of the first Apple Watch stands to hit the market, Twelve South has certainly set the bar high. The metallic build of the stand not only looks great on any workstation, but is also light enough to move around when needed. Assembly is quick and easy, but we would have liked to have seen more storage for our Apple Watch charging cable. It does however do exactly what it sets out to, and it does it at a very reasonable price too which is a bonus.



★★★★★

£39.99/\$49.99 | Twelve South | [www.twelvesouth.com](http://www.twelvesouth.com)



# If Apple made a magazine

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Everything Apple did in El Capitan & iOS 9

62 amazing features that prove Apple's new OS is the best

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KEEP YOUR MAC VIRUS FREE

10 SPOTIFY SECRETS

WATCH POWER GUIDE

CREATE A RINGTONE

LOCK DOWN YOUR MAC

MUSIC Is this the end for Spotify?

WATCH MASTERCLASS

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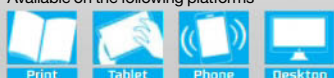
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# GOOGLE PHOTOS



If you watched the iOS 9 part of the keynote speech at Apple WWDC this year, you'll have seen a number of updates focused

around photos, including the ability to quickly scrub through shots and a neat search function that lets you instantly find pictures from one particular location with a search.

Well, Google got there first (by a week or so), and you can search pictures by location using *Google Photos* while you wait for iOS 9 to get here. Once you open up the app, back up the pictures to the cloud and get into the search function you'll notice that your photos have been sorted by location automatically using the metadata stored in the files themselves – simply tap on a place to see the matching pictures on screen.

There's much more to explore including unlimited photo and video backup (if you don't mind a bit of resizing), movies and slideshows made automatically from your pictures, and some simple editing tools to get your snaps looking their best. iCloud and Apple have got some catching up to do with *Google Photos* when it comes to photo management.

● iPhone+ | iOS 8.1 | Free  
● Android | OS 4.0 | Free

“Apple have got some catching up to do with Google Photos and photo management”



## PUBLIC TRANSPORT INFO

*Apple Maps* is getting public transport timetables and routes as part of iOS 9, *Citymapper* already has these features.



### CITYMAPPER

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Android | Varies | Free

# MCAFEE SECURITY



One of the changes arriving with iOS 9 is the introduction of a six-digit PIN code. It's

intended to make your device more secure, and while you can't change the number of digits in iOS 8, you can install *McAfee Security* – it offers a PIN-protected secure vault for your most sensitive photos and videos, to ensure they're always well protected.

● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Free  
● Android | OS 2.3 | Free



The secure vault keeps content safe on an exposed iPhone

# CLOUD SYNCING APPS

## DROPBOX



Apple is introducing some new features into iCloud with iOS 9, but there are plenty of other alternatives for syncing your files across devices via the cloud. *Dropbox* is one of the best and most notable in the business and works just about everywhere – it automatically uploads photos and videos to the web, and there are some handy sharing options too. The quintessential service has 2GB of space offered for free.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Android | OS 4.0.3 | Free

## BOX



*Box* is aimed towards business users but there's plenty of features available here for the individual too. You can get at all of your files from all of your devices, make use of the note-taking component while you're on the go, view many popular file types without having to make use of another app and automatically upload photos and videos from your iOS device to the cloud. You will also get 10GB of storage space for free.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Android | OS 4.0 | Free

## GOOGLE DRIVE



As you would expect from Google, everything works well across the web and multiple devices, and you can create documents in the cloud, as well as scan files using your device's camera. To begin with you will get 15GB of free space available to be used across *Drive*, *Gmail* and the new *Google Photos* free of charge.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Android | Varies | Free

## ONEDRIVE



Microsoft took a while to get its cloud storage and syncing game going, but it's certainly catching up now through its *OneDrive* app (formerly known as *SkyDrive*). As we have previously mentioned with the other apps, you can back up photos and videos taken on your device and access your files from anywhere that *OneDrive* (or a web browser) is installed. Free users will get 15GB of space to play with.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Android | Varies | Free

## SUGARSYNC




*SugarSync* is one of the best independent syncing and backup services out there at the moment, and it handles everything from offline access to file sharing very neatly. On the desktop, you can back up any folder you like, and just about every platform there is has a client available. There's no free tier, but you can try it out for free for 30 days.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Android | OS 1.6 | Free




# APPLE MUSIC RIVALS

## SPOTIFY MUSIC

 *Apple Music* isn't strictly speaking an iOS 9 feature (it arrives with iOS 8.4) but it's still interesting to compare the competition. *Spotify* is the market leader with just about all the features you need, plus a free tier – something *Apple's* service doesn't have. The most recent iOS update brings a touch preview feature for quickly scanning through your music library.


● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium  
● Android | Varies | Freemium

## RDIO MUSIC

 *Rdio* tends to live in *Spotify's* shadow, which is a shame as it's just as good in many ways. It works across apps, computers and the web, and you can easily control playback from one device on another. It has a lighter, cleaner interface than *Spotify's*, although it lacks the ability to import your own local files to fill any gaps that you might find in its library.


● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium  
● Android | Varies | Freemium

## GOOGLE PLAY MUSIC

 You can use *Google Play Music* to stream up to 50,000 of your own tracks for free, but it really comes into its own when you pay for a monthly subscription – as you can stream millions of tracks just as you would do on *Apple Music*. The subscription package also includes smart autogenerated playlists based around particular moods or the time of day.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium  
● Android | Varies | Freemium

## DEEZER MUSIC

 Well-known in Europe but yet to launch in the US, *Deezer* has plenty of features to enjoy, including a more expensive high-fidelity subscription option. There's a free ad-supported tier as well as the option to import your own tracks to use alongside the millions of tracks in the streaming library. It's a slick and polished alternative.


● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium  
● Android | Varies | Freemium

## TIDAL

 *Tidal* has been rising high on a wave of publicity thanks to a long list of celebrity backers and with a more expensive lossless audio streaming tier. Other than that lossless audio, there's not too much to make it stand out, although it does promise music recommendations curated by experts as well as plenty of high-definition video footage.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium  
● Android | OS 4.1 | Freemium

## GOOGLE

 Apple is bringing a Proactive feature to Siri, so that the digital assistant knows more about you and can make timely suggestions (like directions to a place you regularly go to). Of course a lot of this kind of functionality is already available in *Google Now*, which you can get in the *Google* app for iOS (even if it's not quite as comprehensive as the Android version).

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Android | Varies | Free



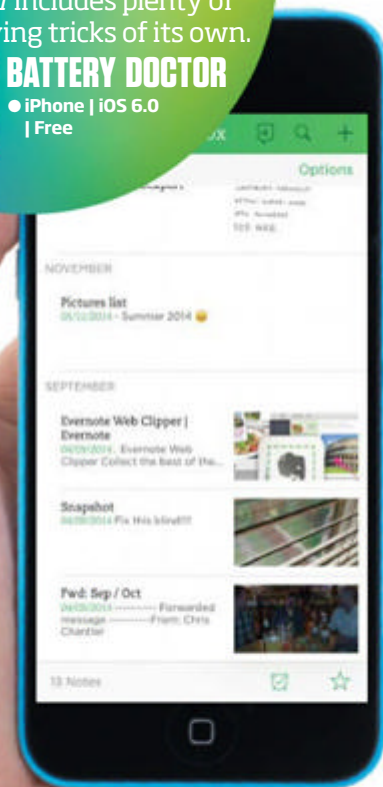
## IMPROVE BATTERY LIFE

You don't have to wait for iOS 9 to improve battery performance, as *Battery Doctor* includes plenty of useful juice-saving tricks of its own.




### BATTERY DOCTOR

● iPhone | iOS 6.0 | Free



## 24ME

 *24me* is another Siri alternative

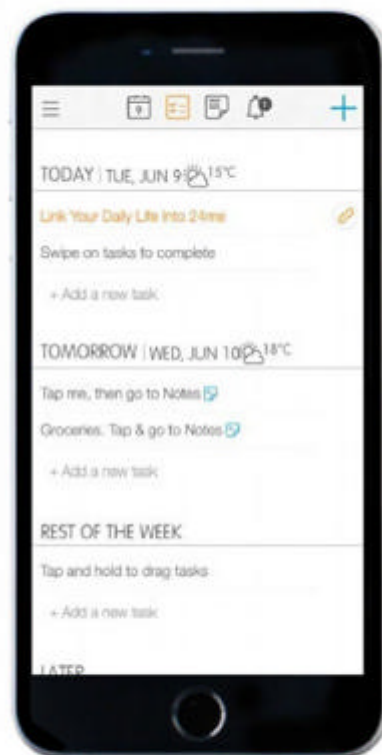
worth a look. It has all kinds of clever tricks up its sleeve, including the ability to sync multiple calendars from different sources and then automatically generate tasks and reminders for you.

Like *Google Now*,

*24me* offers its

users smart alerts too, such as warnings of heavy traffic queues on the way to your next scheduled destination.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Android | OS 4.0 | Free



## EVERNOTE



Apple is treating users to a significant update to its often-overlooked *Notes* app when iOS 9 rolls around – you're going to be able to add photos and checklists, as well as format text and even include web links

and doodles as well. It's designed to help Apple keep up and compete with some of the best note-taking apps around, and *Evernote* is certainly one of them.

It can handle all of the new features coming to *Notes* effortlessly, and another of its key advantages is that it's available on just about every platform you care to name (including your browser). Millions of users rely on *Evernote* to keep everything in sync between devices, but the flexibility and versatility that makes it so appealing also means it's a difficult app to describe if you've never used it before.

You can think of *Evernote* as a virtual scrapbook that lives in the cloud, enabling you to collect and collate all manner of text, images, links and drawings. There's a strong to-do component in the *Evernote* app as well, so it doubles up as a useful task manager.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium  
● Android | Varies | Freemium



## SWIFTKEY



There are some pretty minor keyboard changes coming down the line in iOS 9, but

since the release of iOS 8 there's been no need to wait for any updates or indeed use the default keyboard at all – iPhones and iPads can now make use of third-party keyboards with the benefit of extra features, and *SwiftKey* is one of the best. A basic set of themes is available for free.

● **iPhone+** | **iOS 8.0** | **Free**  
● **Android** | **OS 2.3** | **Free**

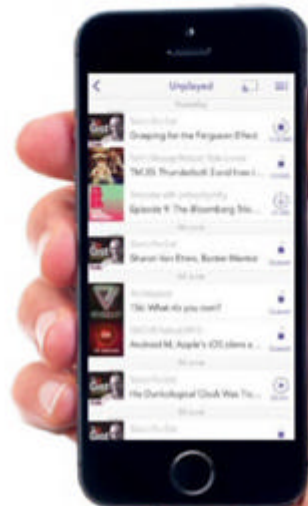
## POCKET CASTS



Apple's *Podcasts* app is getting some tweaks in iOS 9, including the option to view all unplayed podcasts in a list.

While you wait for it to arrive, you could try an app that can already do this and much more, like *Pocket Casts* – it also syncs your episodes across iOS, Android and the web. Other features include automatic silence skipping and speed controls.

● **iPhone+** | **iOS 8.0** | **£2.99/\$3.99**  
● **Android** | **OS 4.1** | **£2.49/\$3.99**



## iOS 9 NEWS ALTERNATIVES

### FLIPBOARD



Like News, *Flipboard* offers a carefully curated collection of interesting articles from the web, with layouts designed to look beautiful on mobile devices, and you can choose from a broader range of sources too. There's also the option to pick a selection of topics you're interested in to start you off, and you can even curate your own *Flipboard* magazine.

● **iPhone+** | **iOS 7.0** | **Free**  
● **Android** | **Varies** | **Free**

### FACEBOOK



Facebook is also keen to get into the world of publishing with its new Instant Articles – these features are created specifically to be shown on Facebook by the likes of *Buzzfeed*, the BBC and the *New York Times*. They're designed to be laid out and optimised for the Facebook mobile app and they look very similar to the stories Apple showed off at WWDC.

● **iPhone+** | **iOS 7.0** | **Free**  
● **Android** | **Varies** | **Free**

### CIRCA NEWS



*Circa* takes a more minimalist approach to news but like Apple's app it's built specifically for mobile devices. The underlying idea is that you will receive news in bite-sized chunks, enabling you to follow the stories you care about and ignore the rest. The *Daily Wire* is especially useful; it's a hand-picked list of must-read articles delivered straight to you.

● **iPhone** | **iOS 7.0** | **Free**  
● **Android** | **OS 4.0.3** | **Free**

### DIGG



*Digg* is another clean and fast app concerned with putting the most important news in front of your eyeballs in the most aesthetically pleasing way possible. Along the way it uses a mixture of human judgement and social media signals to pick articles from the web, though you can easily tweak the various algorithms using your own preferences too.

● **iPhone+** | **iOS 7.0** | **Free**  
● **Android** | **Varies** | **Free**

### FEEDLY



Part RSS aggregator and part news discovery service, *Feedly* is one of the most comprehensive article-gathering apps currently available for iOS or any other platform. Set up an account and you can sync reading material from multiple devices, and everything is perfectly formatted to fit a smaller screen no matter what the original source.

● **iPhone+** | **iOS 7.0** | **Free**  
● **Android** | **OS 4.0** | **Free**

## TRUECALLER



Apple has been busy tidying up various aspects of the contacts and caller interface in iOS 9, and one of those changes will enable you to identify an unknown number as it comes through a call on your phone. Well, guess what – there's already an app that can do that for you in the form of *Truecaller*.

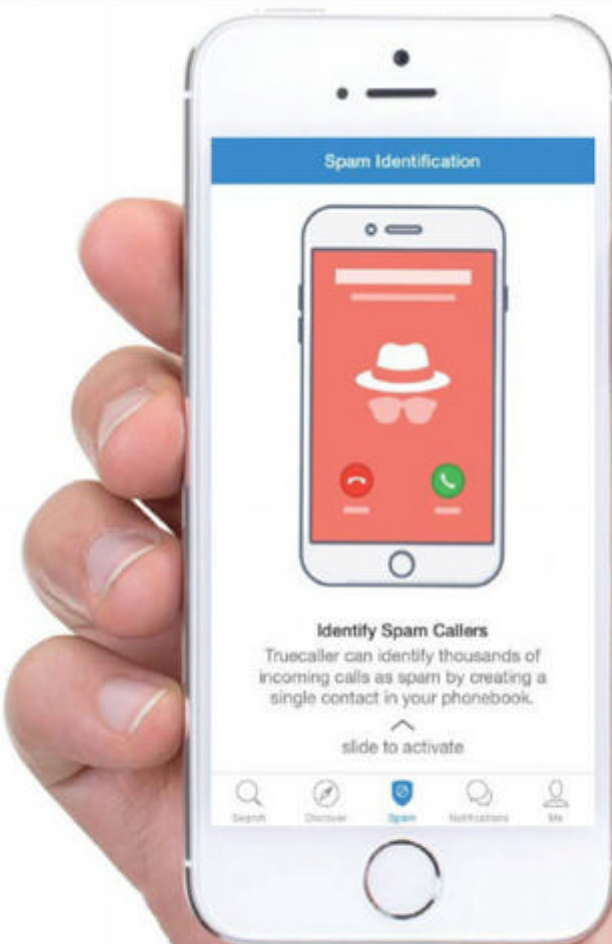
If you see a number that you don't recognise, *Truecaller* can help you hunt down the source. Thanks to the diligent reporting efforts of the *Truecaller* community, you can even get warnings about spam calls – you'll receive a warning if the number has already been flagged up by others. The app boasts more than 1.7 million users so the information should be accurate and up to date.

There's an integrated number searching function and it can also work with your existing contacts to keep them current and to spot people you actually do know. The app offers a widget for the Notification Centre and Yelp integration to identify local business numbers too, so you should be well covered while you wait for iOS 9.

● **iPhone+** | **iOS 7.0** | **Freemium**  
● **Android** | **OS 2.3.3** | **Freemium**

**“If you see a number that you don't recognise, Truecaller can help you hunt down the source”**

The *Truecaller* community helps to flag spam numbers





# SUMMER ESSENTIALS

THE BEST APPS TO ENSURE YOU  
HAVE FUN IN THE SUN





# BANDSINTOWN CONCERTS



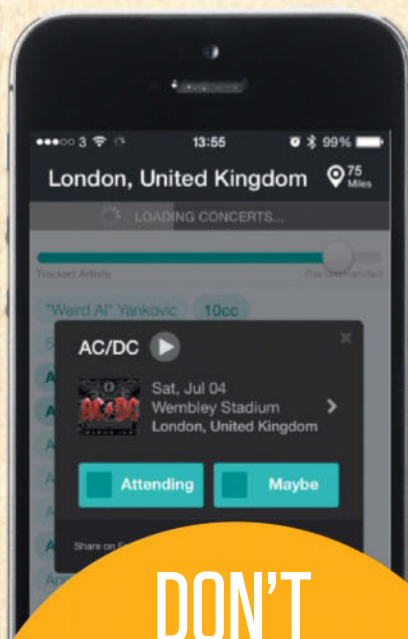
Keeping up with who is playing where at any time has never been an easy task, and strangely it is one that has until recently remained a chore even with the internet and computers so widespread.

*Bandsintown Concerts*, however, is designed to help you locate the very best concerts in the most suitable locations with just a simple search. You can receive automatic notifications for your favourite artists and also browse more widely by checking what is happening in a particular city. *Bandsintown* will use your music library to try and gauge who you would most prefer to see, and overall it does exactly what it says it should and more. Summer doesn't feel the same for many people without the occasional concert thrown in and now you have all of the information you need to make the most of the weather and your favourite music at the same time. To top all of these features off, when you find a concert you want to attend, you can even buy tickets which will be useful if they are selling quickly, which tends to happen with many artists.

● **iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Free**  
● **Android | OS 2.3.3 | Free**

**“Bandsintown will use your music library to try and gauge who you would most prefer to see”**

**BELOW** Catch the latest concerts from your favourite artists with your phone



## DON'T GET BURNT

You likely understand the dangers of staying in the sun too long, but with this app you can check how long to sunbathe using multiple factors.



**WOLFRAM SUN EXPOSURE REFERENCE APP**

● **iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | £0.79/\$0.99**

# BC TENT FINDER

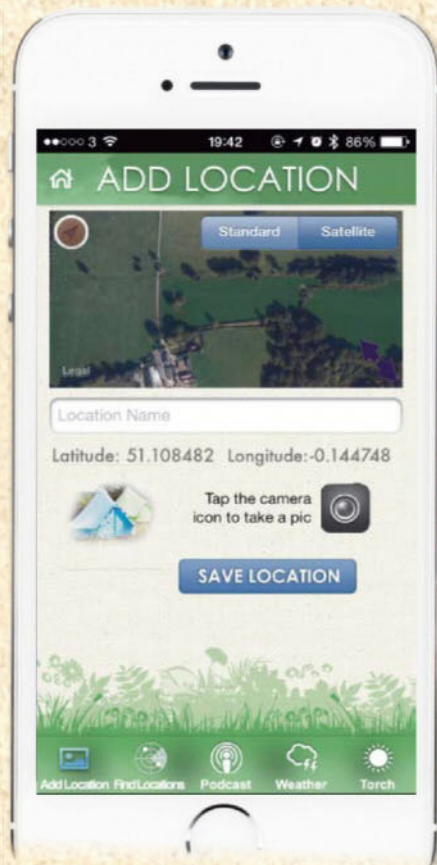


You may scoff at the thought of needing an app to find your way back to a tent, but if

you have ever been to a huge concert or festival, or stayed at a larger than average camp site, then you may find that it is actually quite easy to lose track of where you are staying and first set up your tent. This app lets you pin the exact location and also take a photo so that you can be sure to find it later, and you can also check the weather or use the built-in torch when darkness sets in. It's actually surprisingly useful.

● **iPhone+ | iOS 5.1 | Free**

**LEFT** Losing a tent in a huge field really is not difficult, *BC Tent Finder* makes finding it again easy



# LONG SUMMER JOURNEYS

## FLIGHTRADAR24



If you have a holiday coming and want to track your flight, there is no better way to do so than with *Flightradar24* which offers a huge array of accurate flight information in the most pleasing of ways. The other benefit is that if you are scared of flying, this is a great way to get into your mind just how many planes fly long trips without problems every single day.

● **iPad+ | iOS 6.0 | £2.99/\$3.99**  
● **Android | OS 2.3.3 | £2.49/\$3.99**

## GPS NAVIGATION, MAPS & TRAFFIC



When travelling to a local event or through foreign countries, there's now a solution which is extremely cost effective and which offers all of the advanced features you could need. From traffic to offline maps to speed camera warnings, it is all here and it is capable of keeping you on track for every second of your trip. Use it for every journey.

● **iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium**  
● **Android | OS 4.0 | Freemium**

## PEPPA'S PAINTBOX



“Are we there yet?” If you are a parent, that phrase will be stuck in your mind, but with the help of *Peppa's Paintbox* you may be able to keep your children quiet for some considerable time. There is a decent variety of stickers, drawing tools and characters for them to play with, and it should be enough to help your summer holiday get off to the best possible start.

● **iPad+ | OS 5.1.1 | Free**  
● **Android | OS 3.0 | Free**

## MAPS.ME



On an exotic summer holiday, one of the benefits may be a lack of internet access, but you may still have a need to get to a random destination on foot. With *MAPS.ME*, you can download maps for more than 300 countries and then use them offline. The added benefit is that the detail is truly excellent and a perfect replacement for paper maps.

● **iPad+ | iOS 5.1.1 | Free**  
● **Android | OS 2.3 | Free**

## YONDER



*Yonder* is designed to help you discover exciting activities and adventures that are close to you which makes for a very interesting app experience. However, if you are away for the summer in a location you do not know too well, it could completely transform your break and open your eyes to more than 20,000 exciting destinations. A very useful app to carry with you.

● **iPhone+ | iOS 7.1 | Free**  
● **Android | OS 4.0 | Free**



# HOLIDAY FIXES

## GOOGLE TRANSLATE

One of the major difficulties you will likely encounter when abroad is trying to communicate with people who do not speak your language. You could spend time trying to learn it before you leave or you could simply use this app to type or speak a phrase and have it translated in an instant for both parties. Take some time to get used to it because it works brilliantly.

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Android | Varies | Free

## BATTERY DOCTOR

One of the major benefits of summer is that the days are longer and as such you should consider ensuring that your phone will get you through every day with ease. *Battery Doctor* not only offers advice on how to keep your battery in the best condition, but it also offers the most complete stats so that you always know how much power you have left. Enjoy every minute.

● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Free

## XE CURRENCY

Whether you are buying products abroad or need to purchase foreign currency for a future summer break, *XE Currency* will be your friend when you need it. It can instantly offer rates and conversions for hundreds of currencies and always offers up-to-the-minute results, making it the ideal tool to help you make the right purchasing decision. An extremely useful solution.

● iPad+ | iOS 6.0 | Free  
● Android | Varies | Free

## TRIPADVISOR

*TripAdvisor* is obviously most useful when planning a holiday because it can help you take care of flights, accommodation and eating establishments, but it can also be used during a break to find the best local places to eat and stay. With literally thousands of user reviews, an easy-to-use interface and a big brand name, there really is little need to look elsewhere for recommendations.

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Android | Varies | Free

## ST JOHN AMBULANCE

From minor grazes on the sand to more serious medical incidents, it is always advisable to have some expert medical advice in your pocket and the *St John Ambulance First Aid* app is a great addition to your knowledge. With simple but clear graphics and all of the medical speak broken down to plain English, it really could have a huge impact on you and your friends.

● iPad+ | iOS 6.0 | Free  
● Android | OS 1.6 | Free

## COCKTAIL FLOW



Few drinks fit a summer evening mood better than a smooth cocktail, and

with this app you can create as many as you like using hundreds of different ingredients. From a Pink Rum to a Bloody Brain, the list is comprehensive meaning that you will get to enjoy the consumption as much as the creation. *Cocktail Flow* is perfect for hosting parties with friends or for sounding knowledgeable at the outdoor bar.

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium  
● Android | Varies | Freemium



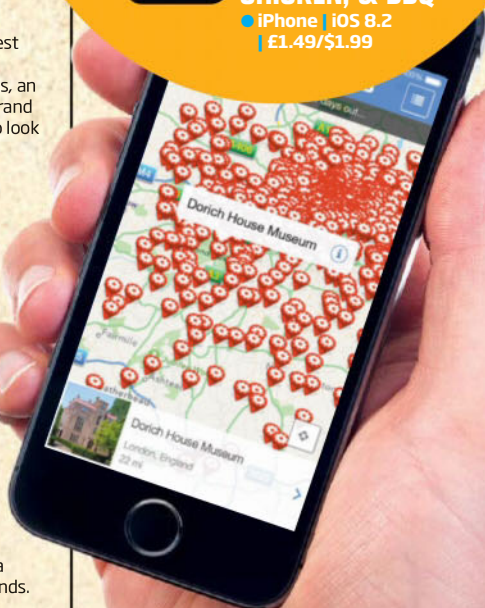
## PERFECT BURGERS

The pressure to create the perfect barbecue can be immense when you are feeding a group, but this app will help you every step of the way.



**GRILLTIME – GRILL  
TIMER FOR STEAK,  
CHICKEN, & BBQ**

● iPhone | iOS 8.2  
| £1.49/\$1.99



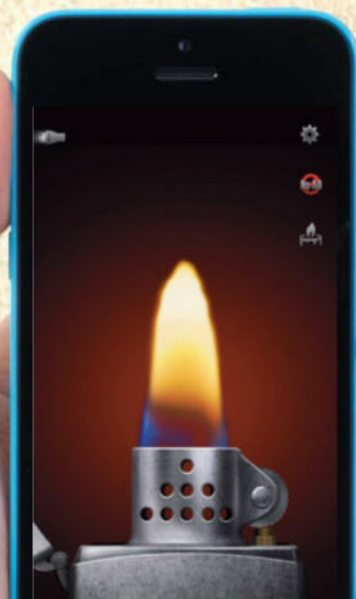
## VIRTUAL LIGHTER



You know the feeling. You are enjoying the smooth music at an open-air concert and the sun is going down, but you quite wisely do not own a real cigarette lighter to show your appreciation. With the *Virtual Lighter* app, however, you can quickly turn on your phone and open the app to produce the same effect, but one which is safer and which fits better in the modern technological age we live in.

● iPhone+ | iOS 4.3 | Freemium

**RIGHT** Light up and avoid getting burnt by flames



## HOW IT WORKS: GREAT DAYS OUT



With the summer season comes the chance to enjoy days out and there is no better way to discover what is available than the *How it Works: Great Days Out* app. With thousands of locations and venues covered, all you have to do is let the app know your location and a map will immediately populate with all of the best places to go in your vicinity. You are given relevant information such as opening times and prices, and you can even get directions in seconds. Apps like this may sound quite standard, but when you consider that they can be the catalyst for many enjoyable days during the summer, you will start to appreciate the value that is included here. If you want to get friends involved, you can share locations with a tap and also save the best ones to your favourites for visiting again in the future. This all makes sense because the database of locations is not just extensive, but it covers all types of attractions so that families and groups of friends can benefit in equal measure from what is on offer. You can now truly enjoy your summer.

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free



## KOBO



There should always be time to read and with *Kobo*, you can catch up on a

selection of thousands whenever the mood strikes. This makes it perfect for lounging around on the beach or for when sunbathing by the pool and the prices for most books are very competitive as well. A decent book while relaxing under the summer sun makes for a perfect seasonal experience.

● iPad+ | OS 7.0 | Free  
● Android | Varies | Free

## WATERLOGGED



You have got yourself fit for summer, the parties and festivals have been sorted and you are aware of how much time you should spend under the sun, but what about your water intake? It is absolutely vital that you drink enough water and stay hydrated during hot days, and with this app you can manage those tiny reminders to drink fluids in the simplest of visual ways. *Waterlogged* can make a huge difference to your health.

● iPhone+ | iOS 8.0 | Free



## HAVE SOME SUMMER FUN

## SAY PLAY



*Say Play* makes sharing music with friends easier than ever before thanks to an extremely simple setup, which is backed by the comprehensive power of YouTube. All you have to do is tap the red button and say the song or the artist that you want to listen to out loud, at which point *Say Play* will start playing almost every time. Wherever you are, it is great fun.

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0  
| £2.29/\$2.99

## BIG LENS



It would be wonderful if we could all carry a DSLR camera when having fun in the sun, but that is not always practical. *Big Lens* offers the ability to create a genuine depth-of-field effect on just your phone which means that you can still enjoy what you are doing and capture some fantastic memories.

● iPad+ | iOS 6.0  
| £0.79/\$0.99  
● Android | OS 4.0  
| £0.61/\$0.99

## KWILT



Capturing great photos during summertime is one thing, but what happens to them when the seasons change? *Kwilt* is designed to let you view all of your photos in a much more natural way and from a variety of sources. Dropbox, Google Drive, Flickr and so many other services are supported and it works seamlessly throughout. *Kwilt* creates a near-perfect photo album.

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium

## YAHOO WEATHER



There is no such thing as a summer without the occasional rainy day and so it makes sense to be able to check the forecasted weather conditions whenever you want. *Yahoo Weather* offers this ability and in a style which is the envy of many others. With subtle animations, a copious amount of detail and multicity support, *Yahoo Weather* offers a lot of benefits.

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Android | Varies | Free

## STELLER



Sharing important events has become as common an activity as any other on the internet and on social media, and if you want to do just this, why not use an app like *Steller*? It lets you combine text, photos and videos in a highly professional, beautiful way with a minimum of effort and the end results will not only bring back precious memories, but is also likely to impress all of your friends.

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Free

## 7 MINUTE WORKOUT CHALLENGE



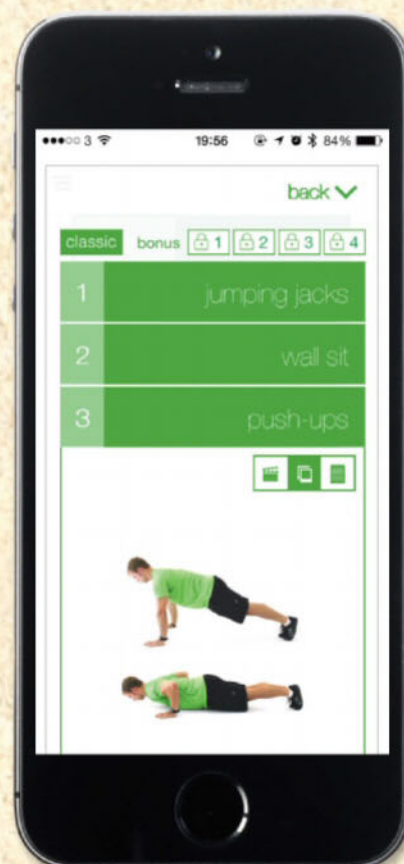
Most of us lead busier lives than we used to which can limit the amount of time available to do exercises and get fitter.

This can become even more of a problem when summer arrives and you want to look your best on the beach or at a swanky evening party, but don't worry - there is a solution at hand. *7 Minute Workout Challenge* claims to offer the equivalent of a one-hour workout in just seven minutes thanks to the research that has been done to create a series of exercises that can benefit every part of your body. From push-ups to lunges to squats, the range of workouts is truly impressive and there are many achievement-related features which should give you the motivation to keep going every single day to keep exercising. Surprisingly, it feels like a little work really does go a long way with this app and if you stick to the daily routines, you will look and feel much better in your summer clothes. Ultimately, however, it does a lot more than that and can have a positive effect on your health and your mind as well, which cannot be a bad thing. It's time to get fit and beautiful for summer.

● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | £2.29/\$2.99  
● Android | OS 2.3.3 | £2.40/\$2.98

“It feels like a little work really does go a long way”

**BELOW** Get physically beach-ready in seven minutes





# LIVE VIDEO STREAMING APPS

APPS THAT WILL GET YOU LIVE ONLINE ANYWHERE

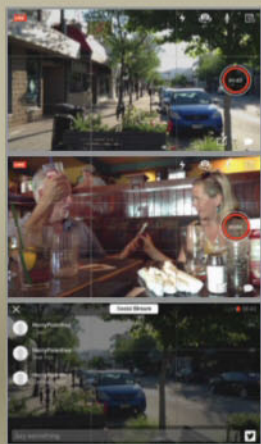
## USTREAM

**U** It's easy to broadcast yourself after you create a Ustream account. Tap the camera icon or access the Go Live option in the menu to initiate the camera. The app only broadcasts in landscape mode but you can share a link to your video, save finished streams and find other live feeds.

Low on options but good enough to let you stream your message out there.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0  
| Freemium | v3.0.5  
● Android | Varies  
| Freemium | Varies

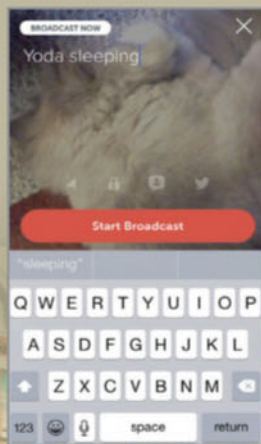


## PERISCOPE

**P** If 140 characters isn't enough, use this new app from Twitter. Broadcasts can be private or shared by posting a link to Twitter. You can also allow only those you follow to comment. When the stream is finished, the app shows your viewer tally and uploads a recording. The Twitter link should get you a bigger audience than any other app reviewed here.

★★★★★

● iPhone | iOS 7.1  
| Free | v1.1  
● Android | OS 4.4  
| Free | v1.0.1

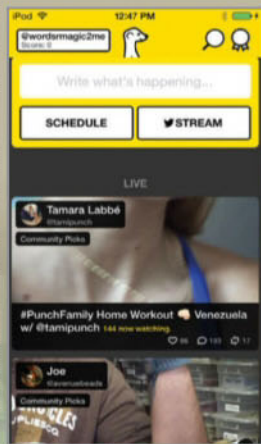


## MEERKAT

**M** This app offers similar features as Periscope, such as following other users and linking to your live stream posted on your Twitter feed. Your video is displayed on Meerkat's website and you can schedule when you would like to start broadcasting if you don't want to press Stream. Aesthetically pleasing but remember that the world sees what Twitter sees.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 8.0  
| Free | v1.4  
● Android | OS 4.3  
| Free | v1.3.3

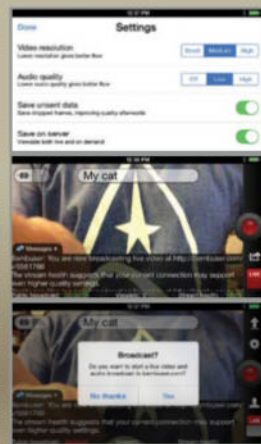


## BAMBUSER

**B** Bambuser is like a social network for video streamers. Once you have an account, you can start broadcasting to the Bambuser website. Videos can be set to public or private and shared with friends on social media. You can also download saved streams as FLV files and embed in websites. Despite the strange name, you won't be bamboozled by this app's handy features.

★★★★★

● iPhone | iOS 5.1.1  
| Free | v1.9.14  
● Android | Varies  
| Free | Varies



## LIVESTREAM

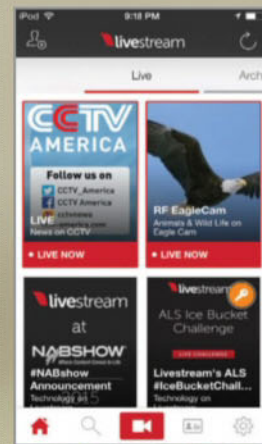
**L** Livestream lets you record in portrait and landscape mode, apply a range of cool filters, stream to the Livestream website, mobile devices and Roku set-top boxes, and invite viewers. You can also watch live events from around the world as well.



The filters produce clever effects and are enough to earn it top marks.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.1  
| Free | v3.8.10  
● Android | Varies  
| Free | Varies



# NOON PACIFIC

## GET A WEEKLY MIXTAPE OF THE BEST NEW MUSIC



There are few things more rewarding than discovering new artists and music that become favourites of yours, but the days of sharing a cassette tape with friends have long gone.

You could spend hours building what you considered to be a clever and flowing selection of tracks to show off to your friends back then. With the invent of phones and tablets, the world has changed, but the developer of *Noon Pacific* has tapped into that feeling by offering a new mixtape every week which you can stream for free.

The interface is incredibly simple and only shows a graphic, a list of tracks and extra options which appear when an action is performed. You can play them anywhere you have an internet connection and then move to SoundCloud to do other things with the latest tracks. It all sounds great and easy to use, but it is in the quality of the music that this app truly shines. Time after time, we selected tracks from previous weeks and were more than pleasantly surprised at the diversity and the feeling the

### PROS/CONS

- ▲ The simple design is very easy to use
- ▲ The music tracks are diverse and above average in quality
- ▼ You cannot directly download the tracks
- ▼ The genre of music will not appeal to everyone

tracks gave us. It is easy to understand who has created what and to then explore further in SoundCloud to listen to more from the same artist.

Working as a catalyst for discovering new tunes, you know it is a success when you start to look forward to the next selection arriving. It is clear that the developer loves music a lot and this shines through in the design and the way the tracks are curated. In a world of complex apps and services which are designed to grab all of the headlines, this simple app does exactly what it sets out to and will be one which you use often. A brilliant app solution.



**A brilliant weekly mixtape for free brings traditional music sharing to modern phones and tablets.**

★★★★★

- iPhone+ | iOS 8.2 | Free | v3.0  
<http://bit.ly/noonpacificios>
- Android | OS 2.3.3 | Free | v0.0.1  
<http://bit.ly/noonpacificand>



**Above** The interface within *Noon Pacific* is minimal, but it still works very well



**Above** There are more options in SoundCloud for recommended tracks

## ALTERNATIVELY

Stream music any way you like

### 01 SOUNDCLOUD

 SoundCloud lets you discover new music and podcasts, and the entire service is free. It's slightly clunky in places, but the content is great.

★★★★★


● iPad+ | iOS 7.0

| Free | v3.9.1

● Android | Varies

| Free | Varies

### 02 TUNEIN RADIO

 This radio streaming app does not let you specifically select tracks to play, but the content is huge and the performance is close to perfect.

★★★★★


● iPad+ | iOS 7.0

| Freemium | v7.6

● Android | Varies

| Freemium | Varies

### 03 SPOTIFY MUSIC

 If you are passionate about your music, you will gladly pay the monthly subscription for the millions of tracks on offer in *Spotify Music*.

★★★★★


● iPad+ | iOS 7.0

| Freemium | v3.2.0

● Android | Varies

| Free | Varies

### 04 LINK UP TV


 Link Up TV lets you download new tracks to play offline, but you will need to be interested or fans of genres like rap and hip hop to benefit the most from the included content in the app.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0

| Freemium | v2.0.5

### 05 MUSICIFY

 Musicify works quite similarly to how *Noon Pacific* works, but it has a more direct integration with SoundCloud, but on the other hand, has no curated content to stream each week.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0

| Freemium | v1.0.1



# BEAMLY BITE

## ENJOY EASILY DIGESTIBLE ENTERTAINMENT NEWS



Social TV app Zeebox relaunched as *Beamly* earlier this year and this is one of the new initiatives from the freshly rebadged service: a cut-down version of the main *Beamly* app. You get quicker access to entertainment news and features with fewer social and personalisation options cluttering up the menus.

For a quick dip into the latest TV news it works very well. Articles are bright and well laid-out, and scrolling between headlines and content is simple to do. Who's kissing who on *Corrie*? How well do you know *Peep Show*? What's the latest twist in *Game of Thrones*? Breaking updates sit alongside slightly longer features and the mix is just about right.

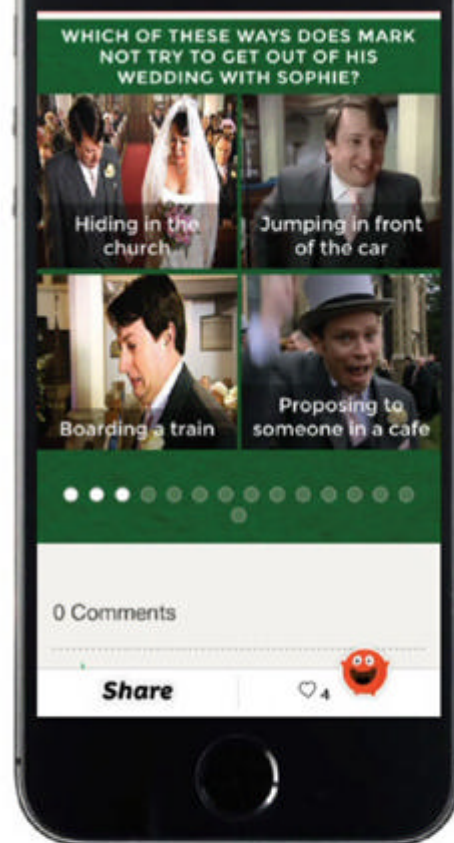
It still has the feel of a work in progress though – a lot of the articles lack depth and seem to have been put together in a rush. There are no central hubs for programmes, no ways to filter through the content and no



**Above** Unfortunately you can't filter content

customisation options (so you can't choose which shows you want to read about). If you want to add comments you will need to install the full *Beamly* app.

If you're happy with something quick and simple then *Beamly Bite* will certainly fit the bill, but don't expect it to entertain you for any more than five minutes at a time. The *Beamly*



app will offer you much more detail and depth for those who don't mind setting up an account for the full app.

**Bite-sized entertainment news on tap, but there's not much depth here.**

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 8.1 | Free | v1.0  
<http://bit.ly/beamlybiteitios>

# MEZZO MUSIC PLAYER

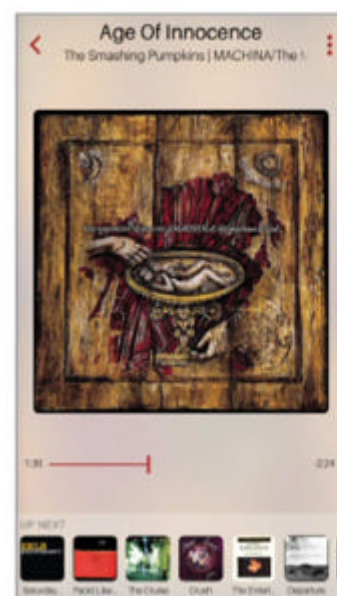
## AN ALTERNATIVE PLAYER WITH AN INNOVATIVE QUEUE



Launching a music player for iPhone is a bold move with so many established competitors – not least Apple's own native app and the just-announced new *Apple Music* – but the developers of *Mezzo* don't seem daunted by the challenge. The main selling points for *Mezzo* are an attractive interface and an intuitive queue system that lets you easily navigate around your library and decide what to listen to next.

Much of the app is well designed and laid out, though you may have to unlearn the default swipes and actions you're used to in your usual music player app: a short swipe puts a song next in the queue, a longer swipe adds it to the end of the current list. The usual song, artist and album views are included, as well as a lyrics view that gives you the chance to sing along.

Those lyrics didn't always load correctly and we noticed one or two other graphical glitches too. There's no playlist support (the app uses your iTunes playlists instead), an abundance of ugly-looking ads (you can get rid of them



**Left** The interface aesthetic is one of *Mezzo's* best features

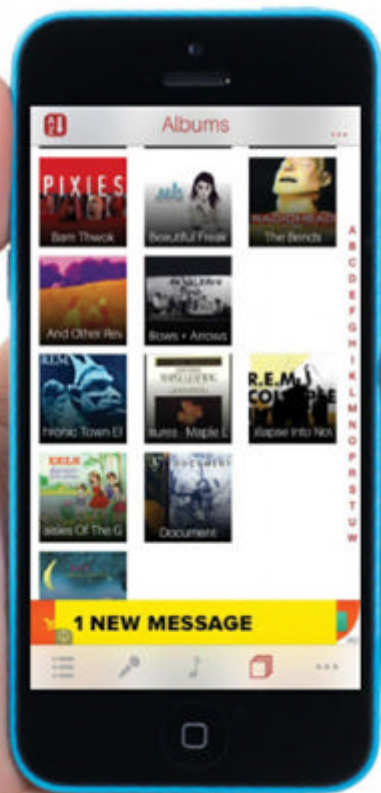
with a £1.49/\$1.99 upgrade) and the overall experience is rather underwhelming.

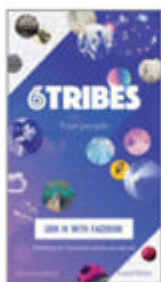
The design is impressive (though in need of a little polish) and other apps could learn from *Mezzo's* clever queue system, but there's not enough here to tempt people away from the big names in music player apps.

**Mezzo has some good ideas to offer music fans but ultimately it fails to impress.**

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 8.0 | Freemium | v1.1  
<http://bit.ly/mezzoplayerios>





## 6TRIBES



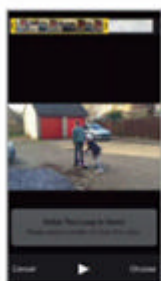
6Tribes takes an original approach to the world of social networking by

bringing you together with people who have the same interests as you. Your 'tribes' are created instantly based upon one big topic such as Urban Explorers and we found that we immediately had things to discuss with those who were complete strangers minutes before. It could be improved in places, but it is off to a very good start and has the potential to be a very popular service.

**A new and obvious approach to social networking which has not been done before.**

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 8.0 | Free | v1.1



## GIFLAB



Creating GIFs has always been a trickier process than it needs to be, but here we

have an app which can do the job for you in seconds. Simply choose a video as the subject to use, and then adjust the speed and quality as required. Add a filter and some text at which point you can share the end result on any network you like or directly via messaging or email. Few solutions are as easy to use as this app while retaining the ability to create quality content.

**A simple, but clever app which can turn your videos into great GIFs in seconds.**

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0  
| Freemium | v1.0.0



## DINGBEL



The communication features that are unique to the Apple Watch have been

greeted with mixed reactions, but it is true to say that they are more personal and efficient than most other systems. *Dingbel* feeds off this phenomenon and lets you communicate with others using single or double taps which will mean different things depending on when they are used. We can see some possibilities for this app, but are not completely convinced that it will be successful.

**Apple Watch style messaging comes to an iPhone near you with the Dingbel app.**

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 8.0 | Free | v1.0.1



## MY IDOL - 3D AVATAR CREATOR



Avatars are useful for giving yourself an online identity, but *My Idol* takes the

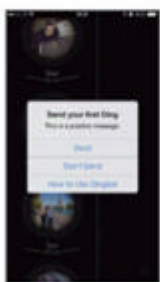
idea and expands it in some quite amazing ways. Photograph your face to build a lifelike 3D avatar of your whole body in minutes. You can then add clothes and objects to complete the effect, but it is in the sublime way it is programmed that makes it truly shine. The end results are surprisingly accurate.



**An original and polished app. It's great fun.**

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0  
| Free | v1.5.6



## FUNNY OR DIE NEWS FLASH. REAL NEWS. REAL FUNNY



It is true that the daily news is often full of depressing stories, but with this app you can look at the lighter side of life. The chosen articles are good, but at times it feels as though they have been selected purely for the comedy value and they may not all appeal. It is, however, original.

**A positive and amusing way to read the latest news with some minor niggles.**

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 8.0 | Free | v1.0.4



TOP 05  
apps to...

## HIP HOP ESSENTIALS



### 01 RAP TO BEATS

Get a host of beats and record your own hip hop tunes which can not only be shared but published - as long as you credit the app. There's even a rhyme dictionary as well as options to take notes on your latest lyrics and inspirations. Very cool.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Free | v1.6

### 02 MIX.HIPHOP MIXTAPES

As well as letting you discover new artists, you can also enjoy the latest news in the hip hop industry. This app may have lots of ads but it also lets you stream using your data or download hip hop mixtapes to listen to offline.

★★★★★

● Android | OS 2.3 | Free | v2.3.1

### 03 GENIUS

Hip hop lyrics are not always straightforward but by holding your phone when a song plays, this app will recognise the tune and give an explanation of the crucial lines. It really is 'genius'.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v1.8.2

### 04 HIPHOPEARLY

Finding new artists and keeping up to speed with the latest hip hop developments is a must for fans. This Android-only app is authoritative and packed with goodies.

★★★★★

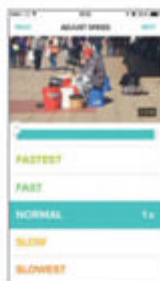
● Android | OS 2.3  
| Freemium | v2.1.1

### 05 RAP RELEASES

Using a series of watches from platinum to Casio, this app filters through albums to separate what's kickin' from what's not. It filters through reviews and aggregates a score so that you'll never be left out of the loop.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 5.0 | Free | v5.0



## TEMPO VIDEO EDITOR



*Tempo Video Editor* lets you pick any clip taken on your phone to add music

and effects to in the most efficient ways. You can choose the exact speed of your finished clip and adjust it to the added music, creating videos that are surprisingly professional. The temptation to keep improving is great and we have had a lot of fun with it so far. It is well worth a look. **You can now edit videos in a few seconds and still get professional results.**

★★★★★


● iPad+ | iOS 8.0  
| Freemium | v1.0



# UPGRADE ACTIVITY TRACKER

## GET FIT AND HEALTHY USING YOUR APPLE WATCH

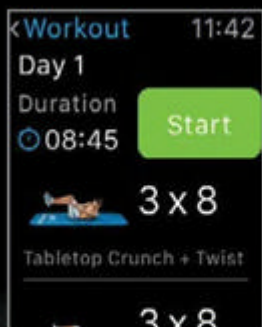
### RUNTASTIC SIX PACK ABS WORKOUT

 For a sculpted six pack, the *Runtastic Six Pack Abs* app should be your first port of call. The Apple Watch interface is responsive, and directions for each workout are easy to follow thanks to the handy animations used. The only downside is that workouts aren't varied and can soon become repetitive when done on a daily basis.

Despite its repetitive routines, this is still the best app to help you get that six pack.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v2.3.1  
● Android | Varies | Free | v1.0



### FITSTAR YOGA

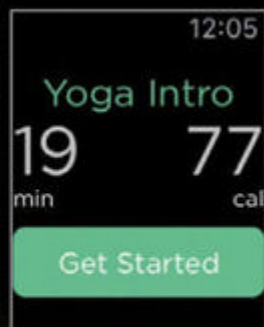


Although *FitStar* offers one of the few yoga apps that is currently available for Apple Watch users, its functions are actually quite similar to your standard fitness app so it's not confusing to users. Various positions are displayed on the screen for the user to copy and follow by themselves, but you'll receive no indication on when to change your position, which is a major issue. *FitStar Yoga* is a responsive app that is easy to navigate, however.

Although the app is fantastic to use, the lack of notifications is worrying.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v1.1.1



### NIKE+ RUNNING



Even though the Apple Watch app lacks the same level of features as its iPhone companion, the *Nike+ Running* app will give you useful up-to-date tracking information on your current or past runs. Users can then share their running times with their friends through their Watch, while it's also possible to send and receive motivation to them to keep them running on the track as well.

While the app loses a lot of its core iPhone features, this is still a fantastic tracking tool.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v4.7.5  
● Android | OS 4.0.3 | Free | v1.6.2



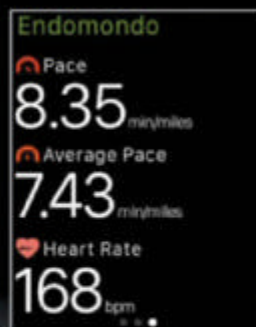
### RUNNING AND WALKING WITH ENDOMONDO



If statistics play a big part of your fitness tracking, *Endomondo* is unrivalled. Apple Watch users are able to track things like their pace, calories burnt and the distance travelled on a single screen, but they aren't displayed particularly well. There's very little to really make *Endomondo* a standout Apple Watch app. *Endomondo* is the king of fitness apps on iPhone, but the Watch app is lacking.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium | v10.1.0  
● Android | Varies | Freemium | Varies



### SEVEN – HIGH INTENSITY WORKOUT



For those constantly on the move, *Seven* is a great companion to have. It provides seven-minute workouts whenever you need them, sending you motivation on your Apple Watch to help keep you motivated to exercise. Users can set the type of workout then want to partake in, as well as the muscle group they want to target.



The perfect accompaniment for those who workout when on the move.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium | v2.3  
● Android | Varies | Freemium | Varies





# GOOGLE PHOTOS

## A PICTURE-PERFECT UPDATE OFFERS FREE UNLIMITED CLOUD STORAGE



A picture is worth a thousand words they say, well after you back that picture up with *Google Photos* it will surely be worth double that.

Announced and immediately made available at Google I/O in May, *Photos* has completely revamped its own system of how photos are stored.

Upload your entire gallery to the Google Photo library and *Photos* truly opens itself up to you. The Assistant will cleverly automatically suggest things like animations, which can make entertaining automatic GIFs – and the gallery is refreshed with a slick layout clearly organised by date. Your photos can then be enhanced further with options like adding vignette. It sounds similar to Apple's *Photos*, but it is the gestures and search function that truly sets it apart.

Type in a general keyword and it will provide suggested photos, and far too often, this intelligent function had us exclaiming "How are you doing that?!" out loud with its facial recognition and analysis skills. Search a colour like 'Blue' for example and it will cleverly show you everything that it

### PROS/CONS

- ▲ The Collections story-making option is brilliant for reminiscing
- ▲ Very easy to use, gestures and search feel intuitive
- ▼ Free storage is limited to photos of 16 megapixels or less
- ▼ No desktop app

thinks is blue: the beach on a summer's day, a woolly jumper, a clear sky and so on. Searching for 'Cat' gave us results of a dog though but you can manually remove these results so that they don't appear in the same search again.

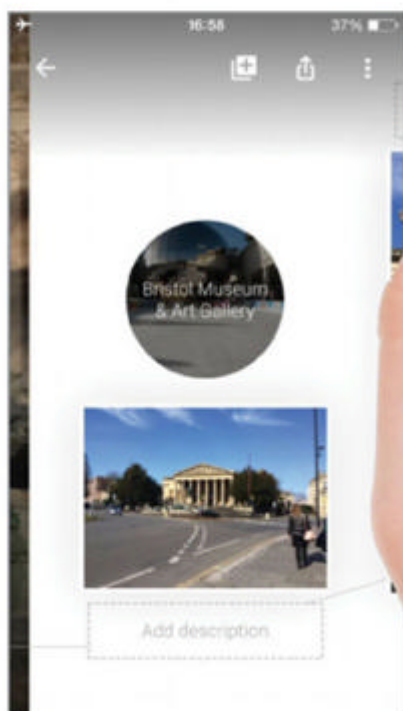
The use of navigation gestures is quite exciting too and came instinctively to us. Just hold your finger still for a few seconds over a photo and then quickly swipe over others to select multiple images. You can also pinch the gallery to view it in day view or month view, or to open or close a photo. It's clear that Google has designed *Photos* to be navigated intuitively, setting it apart from its competitors.



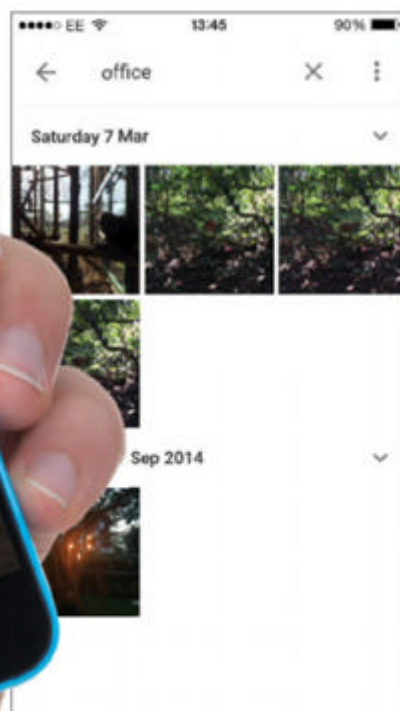
**Google Photos has made backing up photos a great pleasure; new features are intuitive and very fun to play with.**

★★★★★

- iPhone+ | iOS 8.1 | Free | v1.01  
<http://bit.ly/googlephotosios>
- Android | OS 4.0 | Free | v1.0.0.9  
<http://bit.ly/googlephotosand>



**Above** Turn those weekend sight-seeing photos into an interactive story



**Above** Search for 'Office' and it ironically shows you photos you took outside

## ALTERNATIVELY

There are plenty of other ways to back up your photos

### 01 DROPBOX

This essential storage app lets you access and sync photos and files on your desktop, smartphone and more. Great for sharing folders and files.

- ★★★★★
- iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v3.9.1
  - Android | OS 4.0.3 | Free | v2.5.0.4

### 02 FLICKR

With 1,000GB of free photo storage available, *Flickr* is a great choice for photography fans and for storing more high-resolution images.

- ★★★★★
- iPhone+ | iOS 8.0 | Free | v4.0.2
  - Android | Varies | Free | Varies

### 03 PHOTOS

Not strictly an app for backing up photos, but works well with the built-in iCloud option. Apple's *Photos* gives you smart search suggestions and provides plenty of image enhancements.

- ★★★★★
- iPhone+ | iOS 8.0 | Free | v1.0

### 04 SHOEBOX

Boasting unlimited storage (of up to 10.6 megapixels), *Shoobox* beats all the others in size with a cool lockscreen gallery feature too.

- ★★★★★
- iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Freemium | v3.0.6
  - Android | Varies | Freemium | Varies

### 05 AMAZON PHOTOS

Starting with 5GB of free storage *Amazon Photos* backs up both images and videos, but is lacking in features otherwise.

- ★★★★★
- iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v3.5.2
  - Android | OS 2.3.3 | Free | v3.9.0.0.2635g



# TANDEM - LANGUAGE EXCHANGE

## LEARN NEW LANGUAGES WITH THIS MODERN DAY 'PEN PAL' APP



If you want to learn a language but are more interested in having a friendly chat than studying the correct grammar and syntax, *Tandem - Language Exchange* may be for you.

It pairs you with users in different countries, so you can chat face to face over a video call, to discuss different topics and hopefully master a new tongue.

The set-up process is a little disconcerting; it often feels more like you're joining a dating site. After setting up, the app, gives way to a friendly and informal interface.

As its name suggests, the app is based on the premise of a 'tandem partnership' where people meet to exchange their conversational skills in a particular language but this online community eradicates the need to even step out of the house. Rather than the pressure of attending night school or or discussion groups, the user simply taps 'Find Chats' to let other members know what they are looking for (eg "I want to improve my Italian") and *Tandem* provides a list of users who might be able to help.

### PROS/CONS

- ▲ An engaging way to learn a new language
- ▲ A range of ways to communicate
- ▼ Logging in via Facebook is required
- ▼ The app provides no additional support for learning

Users can then communicate through the app, preferably as a video chat. The idea of calling a random person from another country to speak a language you barely know may sound a little daunting, but during our review we spoke with several users while trying to learn Italian, and they were all friendly and encouraging. If you're still not comfortable, there is always the option to audio call without video or just exchange text messages instead.

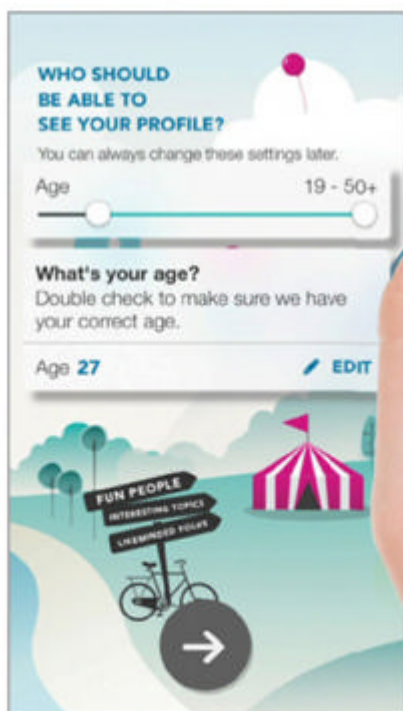
And that's it. The app doesn't offer any additional support, if you want to improve pronunciation and master grammar, you will have to ask other users. A downfall of the current version of the app is the fact you can only sign up using Facebook, but the developers plan to change this.

**Practice your language skills with other users, but don't expect to learn a language at more than conversational level.**

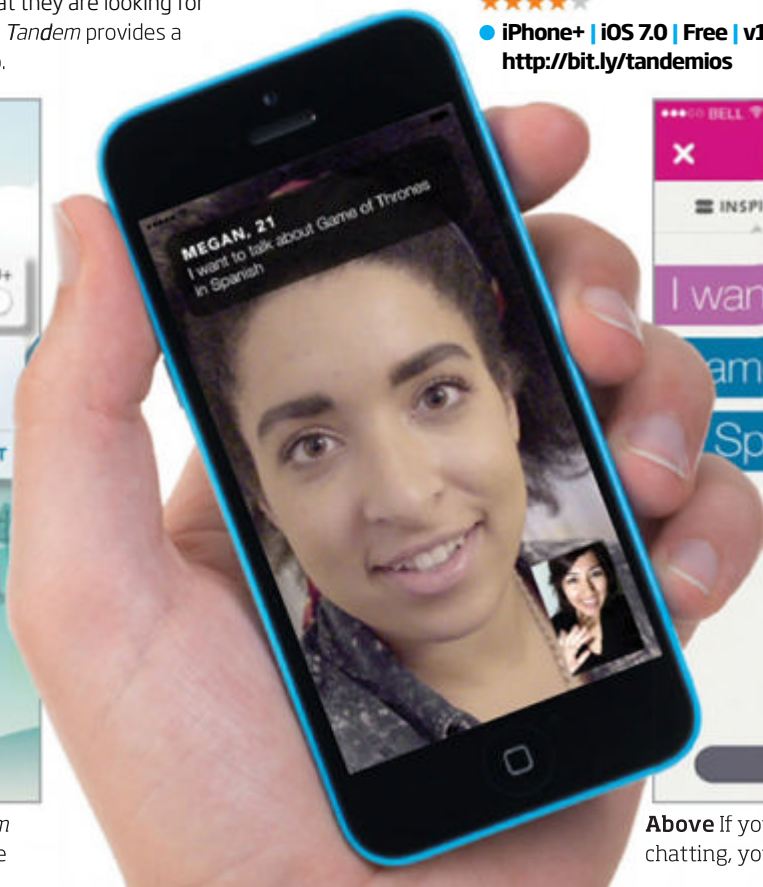
★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v1.2.2

<http://bit.ly/tandemios>



**Above** Sometimes setting up *Tandem* feels a bit like joining a dating website



**Above** If you don't feel comfortable video chatting, you can also text other users

## ALTERNATIVELY

Master speaking in a foreign tongue

### 01 DUOLINGO

Learn a language step by step from basic phrases to translating whole paragraphs with *Duolingo*. It's free and there are no ads either.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0

| Free | v4.3.2

● Android | Varies

| Free | Varies

### 02 ROSETTA STONE

*Rosetta Stone* is expensive, but it will guide you with immersive video and advanced speech-recognition software.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0

| Freemium | v2.4

● Android | OS 3.0

| Freemium

| v2.3.10

### 03 BABBEL

*Babbel* uses a combination of repetition, completing phrases and repeating back phrases, but is structured more like a text message.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0

| Freemium | v5.0

● Android | OS 4.1

| Freemium

| v5.2.4.042816

### 04 LIVING LANGUAGES COURSE PACK

Covering a wide range of languages, this series of apps focuses on learning sentences and new words. It also lets you skip levels if you're already proficient in them.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0

| Freemium | v2.5

### 05 MEMRISE

*Memrise* has a gameplay approach that sees you earn points to 'level up' as you master language. Impressively *Memrise* covers 200 languages.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0

| Freemium | v2.0.2

● Android | Varies

| Freemium | Varies



# POPSUGAR WEDDINGS

## MAKE IT A NICE DAY FOR A WHITE WEDDING

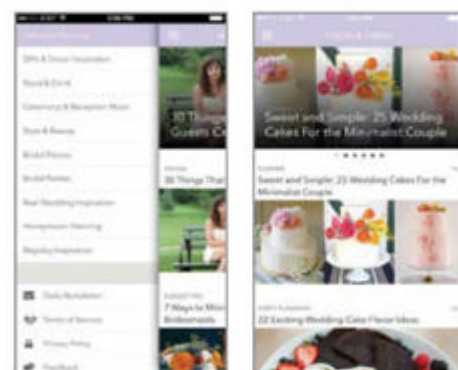


Wedding season is upon us and plenty of stressed-out couples will be feverishly looking for ways to make the build-up to their big day a little easier. Popsugar have come up with a handy app to try and take the stress out of the notoriously tricky business of organising a wedding. The *Popsugar Weddings* app appears to have covered all of the bases by providing helpful advice on a variety of aspects of wedding planning, including tips for music, food and drink. The various aspects of a wedding are divided into handy sections, with each section boasting a vast array of articles which serve up a bevy of tips, ideas and even free printables to keep costs down.

The articles are retrieved from the lifestyle website **popsugar.com** and the sheer volume of information ensures no stone has been left unturned, although this is also a downfall of the app as it can be time-consuming to trawl

**Left** Printables can be downloaded to help keep wedding costs down

“The various aspects of a wedding are divided into handy sections, with each section boasting an array of articles”



**Above** Aspects of wedding planning are divided into sections

**Above** Articles can be shared via social media and email

through. It would also be helpful if there was a feature so that users can ‘favourite’ articles for later reading, but it is possible to ‘share’ articles via Facebook, Twitter and email.

All in all, the app is likely to prove an invaluable tool for engaged couples struggling for ideas for their big day.

**Struggling for ideas for your big day? POPSUGAR take all the stress out of wedding planning.**

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v1.0  
<http://bit.ly/popsugarweddings>

# HOOKS

## GET NOTIFICATIONS FOR ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING

**H**ooks is brilliantly simple in both its design and concept. The notion of yet another app providing alerts, notifications and reminders of something that is going to happen is despair-inducing for iPhone users everywhere but *Hooks* serves up something different. It allows the user to personalise notifications and the updates can be of pretty much anything.

*Hooks* can update you on events that are about to happen, whether it is a new episode of

your favourite television series or an upcoming gig, and it alerts you to latest events: from breaking news stories to your sports teams’ latest scores. Rather than having to delve into a variety of different apps to find the information you crave, *Hooks* keeps it all in one handy place.

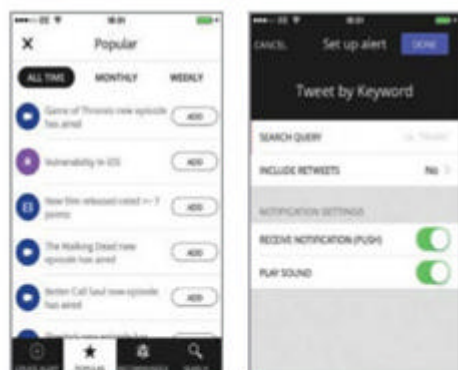
There are over 100 channels and more than one million alerts to choose from so there really is something for everyone and what’s more it is compatible with the Apple Watch so you don’t even need to have your phone on you to find out how badly your football team is performing on a Saturday afternoon.

A couple of nifty design features include the ability to share alerts via Facebook, Twitter, text or email and important notifications can be regularly updated in your own ‘favourites’ section as well.



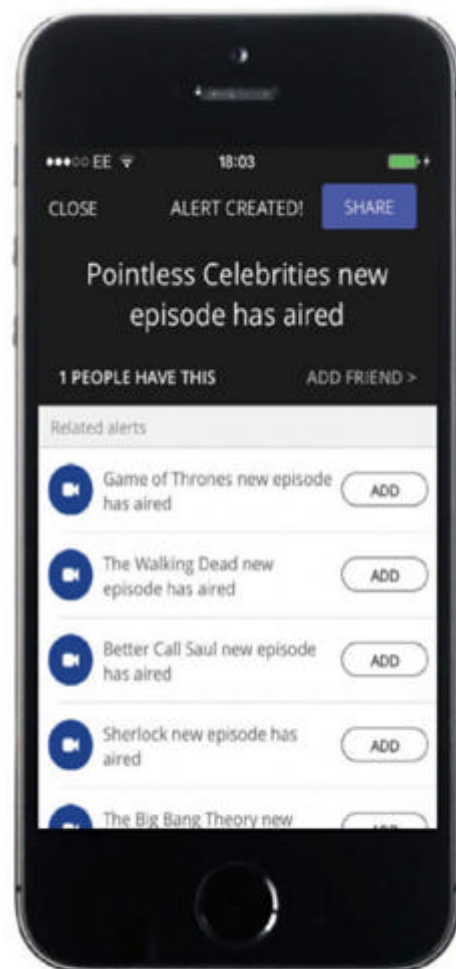
**Never miss a thing with *Hooks* and its all-encompassing, customisable notifications.**

★★★★★  
● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v2.2.1  
<http://bit.ly/hooksios>



**Above** Keep abreast of all of the latest sports scores

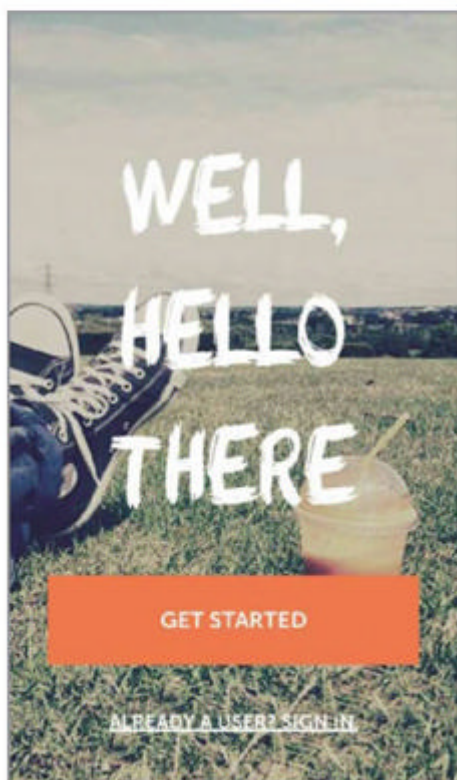
**Above** Get notified of Tweets with important keywords



**Right** Never miss the latest episode of your favourite television shows



# DEEME



DeeMe lets you create arty looking messages in seconds

## SNAPCHAT FOR SOPHISTICATED SELFIES



You may think the friend-to-friend messaging app space is crowded enough already, but the makers of *DeeMe* don't agree with you.

*DeeMe* is based around photos, customised text and icons, almost like a more artisanal *Snapchat* where the pictures don't disappear (they're kept in your inbox for you to enjoy whenever you want).

Creating your picture postcards within the app is fun and easy to do: there are a handful of fonts to choose from, and you can pick from an existing image on your phone, take a new one, or use a blank background. Video messages can be recorded as well, making the *Snapchat* comparison even more apt.

You can find friends through Facebook and by their phone number (though giving up your number is optional) and *DeeMe* is slick and smooth in operation. It's definitely a one-on-one type of app – you can't browse other people's profiles or search through public posts. Everything is kept private and between friends.

The only major question mark over the app is: where does this fit in? Your messages look a lot



**Left** You can drop it a handful of icons as well as pictures and text

more beautiful than they will do on *Facebook*, *WhatsApp* or *Instagram*, but whether that's enough to make people install another messaging app remains to be seen.

**Beautiful-looking private messages made simple... but does it do enough to attract the masses?**

★★★★★

● **iPhone | iOS 7.0 | Free | v1.0.4**  
<http://bit.ly/deemeios>

● **Android | OS 4.0 | Free | v1.0.18**  
<http://bit.ly/deemeand>

# TAYASUI MEMOPAD

## INDULGE YOUR OCCASIONAL DOODLING URGES WITH THIS DIGITAL CANVAS



*Tayasui Memopad* aims to be "the simplest and fastest drawing notepad possible" according to the official blurb, and to that end it keeps interface elements and settings down to a minimum. Launch the app and you're

immediately met with a blank canvas to start doodling on, and clearing the page or loading in your previous bit of artwork only takes a swipe or two. Pictures are automatically saved to your Camera Roll as well.

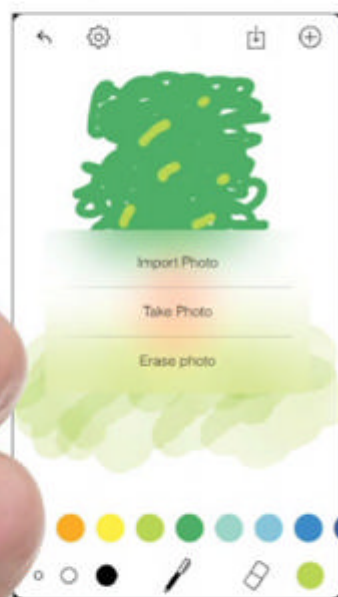
The drawing tools themselves (pen, pencil and paintbrush) are well designed and there are enough options here to create some eye-catching pictures – the ability to load in an existing photo to draw over is a handy feature, and everything feels naturally positioned on screen. The same developer makes the much-loved *Tayasui Sketches* and you can see the same quality here, albeit in a more limited form.

You can pay (£1.99/\$1.99) for extra features: extra colours, extra brush types, better sharing options and more. The basic app is plenty to exercise your creative urges though, and because there's an emphasis on minimalism it's easy to dip in and out of the app. Whether you want to start exploring digital art seriously or you just want to waste five minutes, *Tayasui Memopad* fits the bill nicely.

**A simple but impressive doodling app that has all you need to start getting your creative juices flowing.**

★★★★★

● **iPhone+ | iOS 8.0 | Freemium | v1.2**  
<http://bit.ly/tayasuiemoios>



**Above** You can incorporate your own photos as part of sketches





## 3 KINDS OF ICE

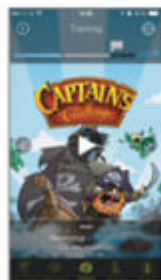


*3 Kinds of Ice* is designed to help you discover new bars, restaurants and establishments by taking you to each venue within the app. It certainly looks stunning and is informative to use which makes it well worth checking out. You can also interact with friends and share your new discoveries. The only negative mark is that it isn't clear why certain information is needed to register. The developer has clarified this, but the app itself needs to be clearer.

**A wonderfully presented app which could help you discover new places.**

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v1.1



## BRAIN+ BRAIN TRAINING



Rising popularity has led to app stores being inundated with brain-training

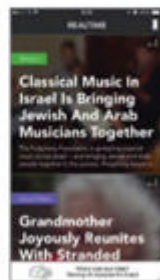
games. This one, however, takes a different approach by offering exercises, which feel more like games than education puzzles, and a personal training program. The design, variety of levels and encouragement within combine well to create an app which really will benefit you if you persevere.



**One of the best brain training games we have seen.**

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0  
| Freemium | v2.3.2



## HUFFPOST REALTIME



The streamlined newsfeed approach in *HuffPost Realtime* makes a lot of sense

because it should ensure that you catch up on news in real-time. The problem is that this can cause news-overload which ultimately makes the understanding of what is happening difficult. Add to this a slightly inconsistent approach to how the news is displayed and we were left feeling slightly bemused. **A competent news app which needs to offer more to truly stand above the rest.**

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 8.2  
| Free | v1.1



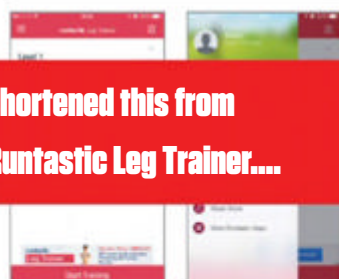
## LYST



Shopping for clothes can be tiresome. You want to find the right outfit at the right price and to make sure that what you need is in stock, but it doesn't always work out that way. *Lyst* is designed to get around that conundrum by sending alerts when items go on sale and when they are available, and in our tests it worked flawlessly. The content is huge and the variety is good, but of course it may not have everything you like. For most people it will still work very well. **Find the clothes you want and wait for offers and availability to come to you.**

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v2.78



shortened this from  
Runtastic Leg Trainer....

## RUNTASTIC LEG TRAINER



Keep your lower limbs in shape with this new app from Runtastic. In this free download

you can view and follow over 50 videos which are exceptionally well produced. The variety of workouts included is impressive and you can measure your heart rate while exercising. Seriously, there is nothing missing.

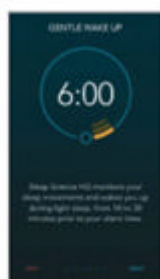


**Highly professional video exercises to put you in top shape.**

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0  
| Freemium | v1.0.1

● Android | iOS 4.1  
| Freemium | v1.0



## SLEEP SCIENCE HQ



Sleep apps are common, but here we have a version which truly delivers.

For a start, you get 750 natural sounds to wake you up with the ability to wake up during your light-sleep moments. The app will also measure your movements at night and lets you create notes of your dreams and changes in sleep pattern. To top all of this off, it works within a beautiful interface.



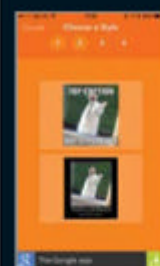
**Is this the ultimate sleep monitor? Yes, it probably is.**

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0  
| £1.49/\$1.99 | v1.0.2



## SHARE GIFS AND MEMES



### 01 MEMATIC

Memes combine humorous text with photos, and this app lets you create and share them with ease. Select your own photos or choose from a host of animal pics.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.1  
| Freemium | v1.3.3

### 02 KONG – PLAY WITH YOUR SELFIE



A lovely new app that lets you speedily make GIFs of yourself to share publicly and privately, adding filters and fonts. It is made by the developers behind the social network app *Path*.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v1.3  
● Android | OS 4.0.3 | Free | v1.3

### 03 GIFBOOM



Record videos, add filters and share your resulting GIFs to Facebook, Tumblr, Twitter and Instagram. *GifBoom* is simple to use and fun and lets you check out other people's GIFs.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 6.0 | Free | v6.1.1  
● Android | OS 2.2  
| Free | v2.6.0.3600

### 04 MEME FACTORY



There are many funny memes to choose from, all created by users and all available for sharing on social media and via email or SMS. You can make your own too.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 4.3  
| Freemium | v1.2.3

### 05 GIFSHARE



*GifShare* lets you search for a host of GIFs, add selected filters, backgrounds, text and share the results to Instagram. You must pay to remove ads and watermarks though.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium | v2.4



# MOLESKINE TIMEPAGE

## THIS ELEGANT CALENDAR APP OFFERS SMOOTH SCHEDULING

### PROS/CONS

- ▲ Well-crafted interface throughout
- ▲ Easy setup and navigation
- ▼ Only one view of your schedule
- ▼ Busy days can be difficult to view



The calendar app is hardly a new category so Moleskine must believe it's got something new for it to take a shot at this crowded field. It sells itself on the elegant minimalism of its interface, its ability to pull in several calendars at once (complete with maps and contacts) and the simple, intuitive way you interact with it. Those are the headline features, but are they compelling enough in practice?

As it turns out, yes they are: interacting with *Moleskine Timepage* is smooth and intuitive in a way that you can't really appreciate in full until you've tried it for yourself. The main view is one long agenda, and moving between days, events, settings, weather forecasts and the app's other sections is very simple and smooth. Even in a category where beautifully designed apps are the norm, this one still manages to stand out: whether there's a lot of data to display or not, the interface never feels cluttered.

Useful information that you don't necessarily get with other apps – like the time to the next meeting or how much of your day is free – is surfaced naturally to the front, and you can easily make changes to existing events with a few swipes: add reminders, set locations, invite people and

more, all from the same unified interface. Perhaps a month view would be handy (you can view five to ten days at a time) but it's a minor niggle.

Adding calendars from Google, iCloud or Microsoft Exchange is a breeze, and you can select which ones are on show and which ones are hidden. You also get a choice of colours and themes, a companion Apple Watch app and the ability to add events using natural language ("coffee with George at three"). Even the areas in *Moleskine Timepage* that aren't original (like weather forecasting) have a polish and ease of use to them that you don't often find.

**A genuinely impressive interface and slick UI make this calendar app worth the expense.**



● iPhone+ | iOS 8.0 | £3.99/\$4.99 | v1.01  
<http://bit.ly/moleskinetimeios>



**Above** The front screen offers one view – though you can alter the number of days on show



**Above** You can get hour-by-hour weather forecasts for any upcoming day



## HOW TO...

Create events in Moleskine Timepage with just a few taps



**01 Find your day** Open the day for your new event (if it's empty you'll see an event from history).



**02 Pull down** Pull down from the top of the screen and the new event is created in your calendar.



**03 Set your times** Use the slides to set the event times, or tap on Set All Day for a whole-day event.



**04 Describe it** Explain what the event is – if you mention a place you'll see a list of nearby options.



**05 Make changes** The event page appears, and you can add extra people and reminders as required.



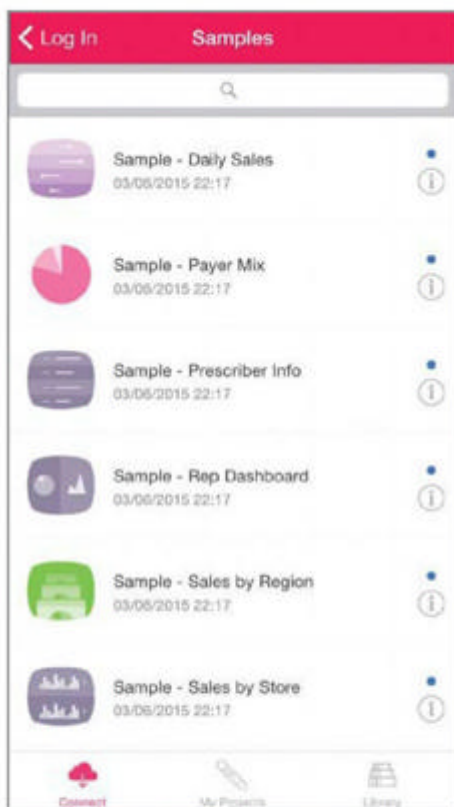
# ROAMBI ANALYTICS

## DATA CRUNCHING AND ANALYSIS MADE EASY



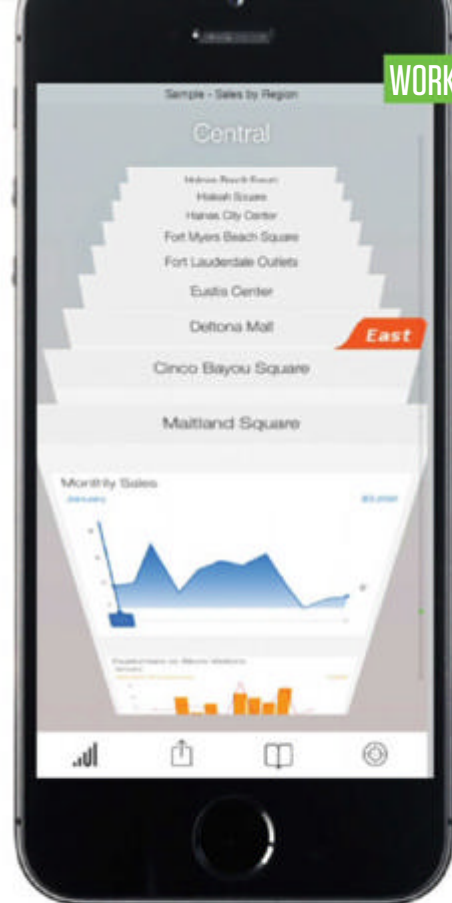
In a nutshell, *Roambi Analytics* takes huge dumps of data in at one end and pumps out attractive-looking charts, diagrams and summaries at the other. It's probably going to be of most value if you're a seasoned Salesforce or Excel user but that doesn't mean other people can't get something out of it too. If you've got a CSV file or set of standard data that needs breaking down then *Roambi Analytics* makes short work of it.

New in the iOS version (which is currently more polished than the Android equivalent) is the ability to import datasets from other apps using the iOS 8 document picker – if you're one of those people who needs to get serious work done on your iPhone or iPad then this will get your attention. Essentially you're getting an industrial-strength data-crunching and discovery app that fits right inside your smartphone or tablet.



**Above** Import CSVs from a variety of sources

Even for a relative layperson the app is simple and intuitive to operate and it scores highly for the clarity and style of its screens. Trying to get large datasets to make sense can be difficult but *Roambi Analytics* makes it look easy – whether it will meet your needs depends on exactly what you need it to do.



**An impressive, well-designed data analysis app that makes the difficult look simple.**

★★★★★

● **iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v8.0.2**

<http://bit.ly/roambianaio>

● **Android | OS 4.4 | Free | v1.1.5.58fe8db**

<http://bit.ly/roambianaand>

# SPARK

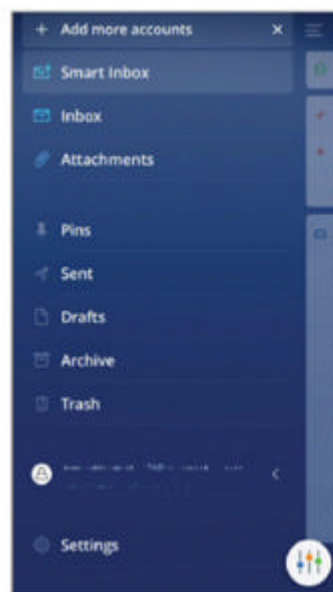
## THE LATEST APP TO TRY AND TAME YOUR INBOX



You might have thought the world had run out of room for email apps, but here comes another. *Spark* is designed to help you “like your email again” and power through your inbox faster than all those other apps designed to help you upgrade your inbox. The unified ‘smart’ view can support several accounts, and the app is able to spot the difference between a personal email, a notification and a newsletter.

To give *Spark* its due, it does a decent job of organising and prioritising your messages. Emails you’ve pinned (or ‘starred’ in common parlance) appear at the top of the inbox together with anything that’s unread; you can choose to auto-archive read messages if you don’t want them to surface again. The ‘quick reply’ feature is interesting, letting you fire off a fast smile or thank you with a simple tap.

Swiping to archive, flag or snooze emails is nothing new but *Spark* does offer more customisation options for these features than most. The natural language search works well too: you can



**Left** *Spark* offers a clever interface and some useful features

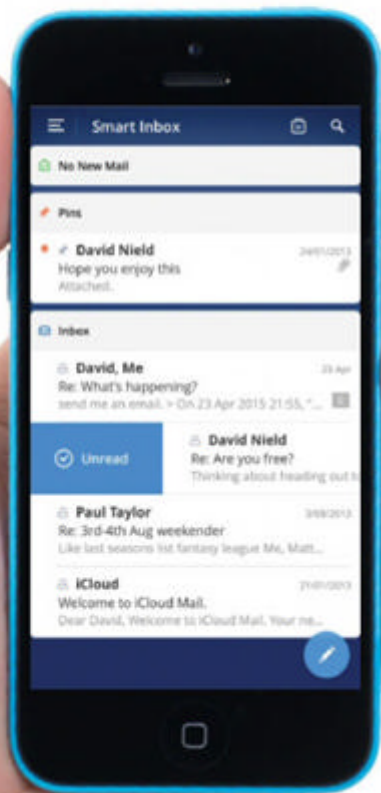
simply type ‘picture attachments’ in the search bar to receive results of any emails that have a picture file attached, for example. With a calendar app, Apple Watch extension and the ability to save emails as PDFs, *Spark* scores highly for bonus features too.

***Spark* is an alternative email app that’s actually worth considering as your default choice and replacing those native apps.**

★★★★★

● **iPhone+ | iOS 8.0 | Free | v1.0**

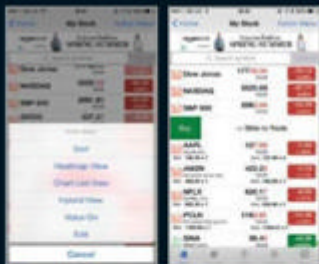
<http://bit.ly/sparkios>





# TOP 05 apps to...

## TRACK STOCKS



### 01 STOCK TRACKER

The full version will set you back a bit, but it's great if you are serious about your stocks and want real-time streaming quotes.

★★★★★

- iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium | v6.1.3
- Android | OS 4.1 | Freemium | v3.3.0

### 02 STOCK MASTER

A swish app with notifications and Apple Watch support, *Stock Master* has global coverage and good portfolio management options which enable you to analyse the markets and your personal holdings.

★★★★★

- iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium | v3.20

### 03 YAHOO FINANCE

A lovely free app that delivers personalised alerts that concentrate on your stocks and keeps you abreast of the latest news.

★★★★★

- iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v2.3.12
- Android | Varies | Free | Varies

### 04 TICKER

Supporting Apple Watch and allowing you to manage numerous portfolios, *Ticker* is inexpensive and it can be used without needing to register account.

★★★★★

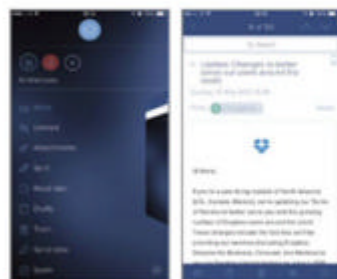
- iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium | v2.47
- Android | OS 4.0 | Freemium | v1.35a

### 05 BLOOMBERG BUSINESS

Bloomberg is a respected, reliable provider of stock information and its app has portfolio tracking tools, news and data. Watch your holdings and see vital stats.

★★★★★

- iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v3.12
- Android | OS 4.0 | Free | v2.12.527



## CONFIDENTIAL CC



*Confidential CC* offers features which will not be needed by everyone, but for

those who need secure email it could be the perfect solution. You can confidentially CC someone in an email and they will only be able to read it once before it self-destructs. It will be completely encrypted, but you will obviously need to offer access to your main email account for it to work. This is a very clever emailing solution.

For those who require these unusual email features, the app will be perfect.

★★★★★

- iPhone+ | iOS 8.0 | Free | v2.1.1
- Android | OS 4.0.3 | Free | v1.0.1



## MOSAIC.



This app offers one of the most original note-taking interfaces we have seen to

date. You can input text or images and then move them around as required within the same note. The visuals are extremely clean and it works exactly as described, but it would be nice to be able to do more with the resultant notes in terms of sharing. The foundations are in place to make this a huge success, and hopefully with continued development it will become very popular.

A brilliant and creative note-taker with limited sharing features at this time.

★★★★★

- iPhone+ | iOS 8.0 | Free | v1.0



## KEEPER PASSWORD MANAGER

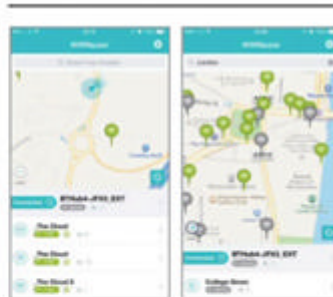


There is no doubting the flexibility of the features within *Keeper Password Manager* and it will undertake general password management very well for you. However, the interface is somewhat outdated, and the extra charges it incurs seem high in comparison to some other apps we've used, but if it works for you, it could be extremely useful and will likely offer you a reliable service.

A competent password handler, but there is a lot of competition in this area.

★★★★★

- iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium | v8.7.1
- Android | OS 3.0 | Freemium | v8.2.7.0



## WIFIMAPPER

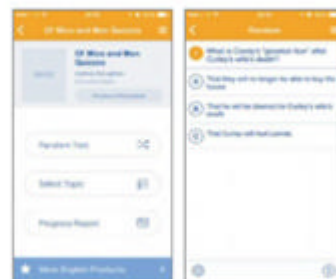


Wi-Fi is a necessary tool for all of us and this is especially true when travelling abroad where roaming charges can be very expensive. Here you get access to more than 500 million hotspots anywhere in the world with the added benefit of extra information such as connection reliability, useful maps and user comments. It's hard to think of a better solution for discovering new hotspots, but be aware that it will use more-than-average battery life while mobile.

For those who travel a lot, this is an efficient way of finding Wi-Fi hotspots.

★★★★★

- iPhone+ | iOS 7.1 | Free | v1.0.2



## GOJIMO

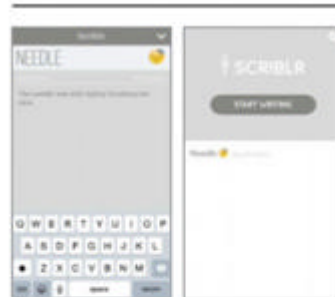


150,000 quiz questions makes for a very large number and here you have them all categorised into subjects so that you can revise at any time before an important exam. The presentation is excellent and the way it works actually feels like fun at times so it has to be worth a look if the stress is starting to get to you. This could genuinely improve your marks.

Take the stress away from exams with this clever app.

★★★★★

- iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium | v3.1
- Android | OS 4.0 | Freemium | v1.3



## SCRIBLR



The idea behind *Scriblr* is a good one; open the app, read the example text and start writing in related terms to the displayed word. It sounds too simple to work, but it can help you get around writer's block and potentially write about many more topics than you normally would. The only potential downside is that it is fairly limited in its approach and so will not suit those who are writing at a higher level than the average person. A good first effort though.

A simple idea to inspire writing, but it needs much more variety to succeed.

★★★★★

- iPhone+ | iOS 8.0 | Free | v1.0



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# THUMB WARS

## CONQUER YOUR FOES IN THESE TOP TACTICAL WAR GAMES

### STAR WARS: COMMANDER

 *Star Wars: Commander* might be a blatant cash grab, but it's a damn good one. Rewarding story missions, familiar faces, and surprisingly addictive gameplay are all part of the package, and if you're going to wage war, do it while listening to John Williams' timeless score.


Brimming with quality, this is one of the best *Star Wars* games on the App Store.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.1 | Freemium  
● Android | OS 2.3.3 | Freemium



### FORGE OF EMPIRES

 Riffing on both *Age of Empires* – as the name suggests – and *Civilisation*, *Forge of Empires* challenges you to conquer the world using diplomacy, technology or ridiculously big guns. A deep experience for more patient gamers, *Age of Empires* is a top-grossing time-sink that's a worthwhile addition to any strategist's war room.


One for tech tree junkies, *Forge of Empires* is more complicated, and rewarding, than it looks.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium  
● Android | OS 4.0 | Freemium



### CALL OF DUTY: HEROES


 A fresh take on Activision's beloved *Call of Duty* franchise, *Call of Duty: Heroes* is a noble attempt to repurpose the series for mobile. Though the game does shine in the graphics, problems with updates, frustrating bugs and frame rate issues have left it struggling to find its feet. Problems aside, *Call of Duty: Heroes* is still worth a punt if you're a fan of the series.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 6.0 | Freemium  
● Android | OS 2.3.3 | Freemium

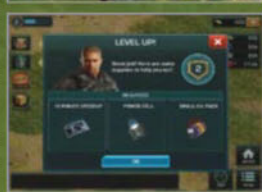


### WAR OF NATIONS


 Featuring old-school gameplay and questionable semantics – you can't actually 'train' a Jeep, you know – *War of Nations* is essentially what *Hearthstone* would look like pumped full of steroids. But *War of Nations* does have some real merits, offering a solid open-world MMO experience that values smart strategy above all else. It might lack mass appeal, but at least *War of Nations* is thinking outside the box.


★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 6.0 | Freemium  
● Android | OS 3.0 | Freemium



### EMPIRES & ALLIES

 Strategy games are ten a penny on the App Store, thanks in no small part to the success of *Clash of Clans*. Rather than fixing what isn't broken, *Empires & Allies* gives the genre a new lick of camouflage paint, combining slick gameplay with high production values to blow the opposition to smithereens. Includes multiplayer battles.

 *Empires & Allies* is storming the charts and our hearts.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium  
● Android | OS 4.1 | Freemium





# GEOMETRY WARS 3: DIMENSIONS

THE CONSOLE SMASH-HIT IS ANGLING FOR SUCCESS ON iPad

## PROS/CONS

- ▲ Immersive, unusual graphics and visual backdrop
- ▲ Non-stop action and a pace that doesn't let up
- ▼ Gameplay can be confusing for any newcomers of the series
- ▼ Firing system takes some getting used to



Having arrived on consoles and PCs late last year, *Geometry Wars 3: Dimensions* is now on iOS too. As with previous entries in the series, the emphasis is on... well... geometry – everything from the levels to the spaceships to the weapons are composed of triangles and rectangles and trapezoids. The game as a whole is wrapped in a *Tron*-style neon glow and this isn't a particularly good choice if you tend to get headaches easily.

Once you've worked out the difference between enemy ships and power-ups (pretty handy if you want to progress), zooming around the levels blasting everything in sight is a lot of fun. Some will find the game a bit too repetitive and indiscriminate, but when you master the intricacies of swooping in and out of your angular enemies you'll find you can pull off some impressively daring moves. Weapon bonuses come along regularly enough and the levels change shape and size as you move from one to the next. There are even end bosses to tackle.

There are more than 50 levels and 10 different battle modes, but even so we found it does get a little monotonous, especially if you're stuck on one particular level – there's not a lot of time to think and certainly no respite from the action so it suits gamers who like to keep the laser blasts, explosions and waves of enemy ships coming (all doused in bright, glowing colours).

This is obviously an inventive and well-put-together game but it could use some extra depth and the occasional pace change. Still, the earlier game *Geometry Wars: Touch* attracted a loyal following among stick-shooter fans, so it might be right up your street. Just make sure you check out a preview video first to ensure your eyes can handle all those shapes and colours bursting onto the screen at once.

**Fast-paced and frenetic space-shooter fun, but a few extra tricks would be welcome.**

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0 | £3.99/\$4.99 | v1.0.0

<http://bit.ly/geometrywars3ios>

“Zooming around the levels blasting everything in sight is a lot of fun”

**Below** You can choose a game mode or tackle the main story



**Above** The design and layout of each successive level is different

## SHOWCASE

The five game modes of *Geometry Wars 3: Dimensions*



**01 Deadline** The aim here is to score as many points as you can before the level timer runs down.



**02 King** You have one life to play around with and can only open fire in designated zones.



**03 Evolved** Score as many points as possible, this time using three lives rather than a set time.



**04 Pacifism** War – what is it good for? Instead of blasting away enemies, fly through the targets.



**05 Waves** Again you have to amass as many points as you can, but this time with just one life.



# HALO: SPARTAN STRIKE

## CAN HALO SUCCESSFULLY MAKE THE SWITCH TO iOS DEVICES?

### PROS/CONS

- ▲ Intricate, eye-catching graphics and effects
- ▲ Smooth gameplay and control system
- ▼ No multiplayer component included
- ▼ Too easy to complete in certain places



*Spartan Strike* is Microsoft's second attempt to bring the *Halo* experience to touchscreen mobile devices, and the first to launch on iOS at the same time as Windows (the earlier *Spartan Assault* has now belatedly arrived on iOS too). It puts the familiar elements of the *Halo* universe into a top-down, touch-controlled interface that's much more suitable for tablets and smartphones; overall it's a successful transition.

Set during the events of *Halo 2*, your character is tasked with essentially doing a lot of firing and blasting to find a mystery device called the Conduit. Even with the new perspective, the weapons and enemies will be familiar to *Halo* veterans, and it's very much a game made with its heritage in mind. The compact missions last about five minutes each – ideal for a bit of lunchtime or evening gaming – and there's enough variety to keep your interest: fetching an item, defending an area and so on.

Stripped-down the controls may be, but they work well for a tablet or smartphone. Serious gamers will no doubt

be irked that you can't switch the auto-aim off, but on mobile devices the gameplay has to be accessible – even if it becomes less challenging along the way. The gradual progression of level difficulty is well judged, and thanks to the points-scoring system you'll be tempted to repeat levels to try and improve your ranking.

The visuals and the accompanying sound effects can't be faulted, and with grenades, armour and interactive elements thrown in, the *Halo: Spartan Strike* experience is always engaging. While long-time *Halo* fans will enjoy the nods towards other games in the series you can be a complete newcomer to the franchise and still enjoy yourself. Perhaps not the most original or most difficult game you'll play this year, but *Spartan Strike* ticks a lot of boxes.

**Not your typical *Halo* game but nevertheless an impressive addition to the series.**

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 8.0 | £4.49/\$5.99 | v1.0

<http://bit.ly/spartanstrikeios>

“The gradual progression of level difficulty is well judged”

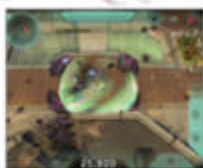
**Below** The game has strong links to characters and settings from other *Halo* titles



**Above** You'll face a variety of opponents with a variety of weaponry available

## SHOWCASE

Five features that make *Spartan Strike* worth the money



**01 Difficulty** Shields, boosters and enemy AI mean you won't be dying with frustrating regularity.



**02 Missions** The missions offer plenty of variety and there are a number of minichallenges too.



**03 Weaponry** Like the levels, the weapons are varied and give you a choice of ways of proceeding.



**04 Heritage** If you've played previous *Halo* console games you'll recognise a lot of the backdrops.



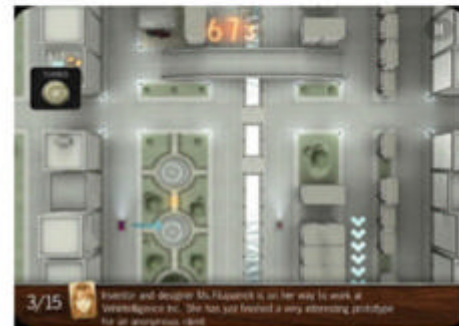
**05 Gameplay** The occasional vehicle rides keeps the gameplay from getting too dull.





**Left** Each round starts easily but then gets a lot more packed

**Below** Hazards such as bridges test your driving skills



# DOES NOT COMMUTE

## GET THE LATEST REVIEWS FROM THE PEOPLE YOU TRUST



There are plenty of car-based games for your phone but none quite like *Does not Commute*.

Guiding a series of cars from one point to another sounds simple enough but the difficulty lies with the inevitable congestion. The first few rounds are easy but it quickly gets a lot trickier as you have to weave your way around cars from previous rounds. You have

to be constantly on your guard as cars, trucks and motorbikes suddenly appear from round a corner. The game is set against the clock and you have just 60 seconds to steer 15 cars to their respective destinations, which is usually just enough. Completing one level starts the next with a big time boost but the setting gets slightly more complex with more hazards, such as bridges and water. The game hasn't

exactly got stunning graphics but it doesn't need to as the gameplay doesn't require it, as it is fun, engaging and involving. Each play-through is different as even minor adjustments to earlier journeys make a big difference later on. Progression is frustratingly stifled as running out of time takes you right back to the beginning, although for a one-off IAP you can return to your last checkpoint.

**This game is fun but does come with a frustrating lack of progression if you play it without the use of IAPs.**

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 6.0 | Freemium | v1.1.0  
<http://bit.ly/doesnotcommuteios>

● Android | OS 2.3 | Freemium | v1.2.0  
<http://bit.ly/doesnotcommuteand>

# KUNG FURY: STREET RAGE

## KUNG FU KICK YOUR WAY BACK TO THE EIGHTIES



*Kung Fury* is a YouTube film spoofing pretty much everything about movies from the Eighties and has become something of a phenomenon, gaining well over 14 million views in under a fortnight. In the half-hour movie, martial artist cop *Kung Fury* heads back in time to stop Hitler, accompanied by a dinosaur-headed policeman Triceracop, Thor and a couple of Viking warriors mounted on dinosaurs.

*Street Rage* is the inevitable iOS cash-in but continues the tongue-in-cheek homage to the Eighties by being a classic arcade-style game in

the style of *Street Fighter*. You play as *Kung Fury*, kicking, punching and shooting an endless stream of Nazis and sentient arcade machines, trying to continue a streak of consecutive hits to boost your score. It starts off easily but as the game progresses, it takes more hits to finish off each enemy.

The game itself is very basic, with one button for attacking to the left and one for attacking to the right, but the idea behind it is what makes this game a success.

Many tie-ins are tired, lacklustre affairs, but *Street Rage* keeps the mood of the film alive with a perfect representation of an Eighties arcade game coupled with the deliberate naffness that made the movie so popular.

**The game is simple so it doesn't exactly have lasting appeal but *Kung Fury* fans will love it nonetheless.**

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 6.0 | Freemium | v1.1  
<http://bit.ly/kungfufuryios>

● Android | OS 2.0.1 | Freemium | v1.5  
<http://bit.ly/kungfufuryand>



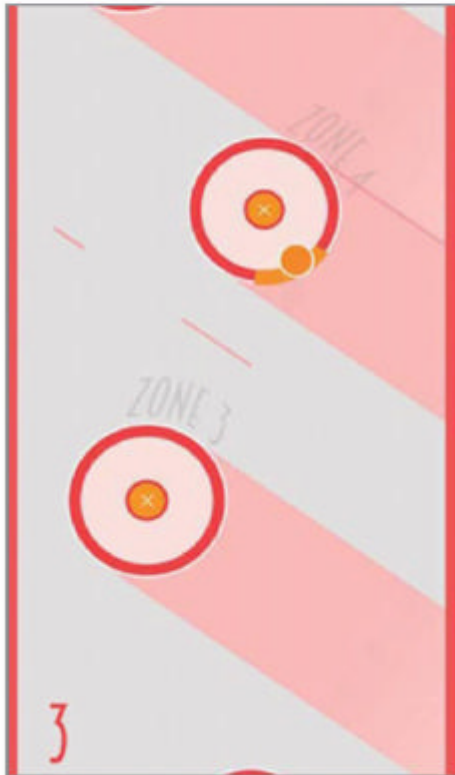
**Above** The arcade-style reflections are brilliant, yet subtle touches



**Above** The endless stream of enemies keeps *Kung Fury* on his toes



# INTO THE CIRCLE



**Above** The game's visual style is great and reminds us of mobile games like *Faif*

## WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT CURLING WAS THIS FUN



Here we have a game where you fling a circle into a larger circle in the hopes that you happen to land into a smaller circle within the big circle. *Into The Circle* is like everyone's favourite Winter Olympic event, curling.

The aim of the game is to keep flinging your circle (to avoid confusion, we're forced to call this a 'disk') into the bigger circles as the game ramps up the difficulty with each successful attempt. An oscillating spindle will determine which direction your disk will fly, just tap the screen to stop the spindle and hold it to build up power before, finally, releasing your shot and hoping that it doesn't fly off into the ether.

Despite the simple controls, *Into The Circle* is surprisingly deep with its mechanics. You can perform trick-shots by bouncing your circle off the boundaries, for example, but we'd discourage you from doing so as it usually ends with you losing the game.

You can pay to keep going should you miss your mark with Stars – you can earn these via hitting the bullseye within target circles or just by coughing up cash. We feel that the game



**Left** You can chain perfect shots in order to amass huge score bonuses

would actually benefit from having its paid Stars removed, enabling people to progress based on their skill.

Despite its pay-to-win model and frequent advert breaks, *Into The Circle* is a very easy to pick up and difficult to put down game.

**Intriguingly deep and intensely addictive, *Into The Circle* is ideal for gaming on the fly.**

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium | v1.0.1  
<http://bit.ly/intothecircleios>

# EMPIRES & ALLIES

## FARMVILLE MEETS COMMAND & CONQUER



*Empires & Allies* was a popular Facebook game until it closed in 2013, but fans no longer need to mourn for that loss now, as Zynga has relaunched the game onto mobile devices.

The aim of the game is to build a base and attack enemy installations across the world.

Okay, so it's another freemium build-a-thon but Zynga has, thankfully, given us something to stifle our yawns in the form of strategy elements. In the strategy sections of the game you switch roles from architect to commander as you attack enemy bases. Unfortunately, these sections ultimately come off as half-

**"In the strategy sections you switch roles from architect to commander as you attack enemy bases"**



**Above** Try not to leave one soldier to destroy an entire base on his own



**Above** A tutorial educates you in the basics

baked as you can deploy your troops and let them run wild. There were a number of battles where we put our device down to go and put the kettle on, only to be surprised to come back to a 'Victory' emblazoned on our screen. However, if you want something a little more difficult, you can take the fight to fellow human beings. Here, the game enables you to attack player-made bases which are more, shall we say, better constructed.

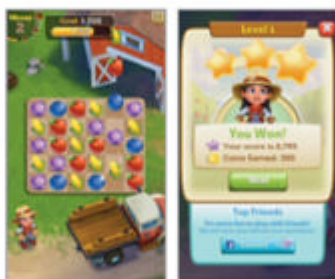
Granted, *Empires & Allies* offers enough keep you busy, with multiple ranks for your buildings and experience to grind, it's just unlikely that *Empires & Allies* will hold your attention long enough to see that content, though.

**Strategy is second fiddle to base building when it should be the other way round.**

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Freemium | v1.5.884969  
<http://bit.ly/empiresalliesios>  
● Android | OS 4.1 | Freemium | v1.5.887711  
<http://bit.ly/empiresalliesand>





## FARMVILLE: HARVEST SWAP



Zynga has taken the *FarmVille* name and used it to good effect in this match-three game. It will look familiar if you have played any of the hugely successful competitors and it is completely addictive. In a crowded market, this game still offers something for those of you who enjoy the genre.

Yet another match-three game to keep you busy at lunchtimes. A very good effort.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 5.1  
| Freemium | v1.0.774  
● Android | OS 4.1  
| Freemium | v1.0.774



## NONE\*



It is truly hard to describe *none\**, which is a simple game in the extreme. You are presented with obscure questions which you have to answer in order to move on to the next one and progress through the game. Some of the questions are obvious, but others are not so. The questions will have you thinking for ages until the right answer eventually comes to you. The puzzling nature of *none\** really does work on so many levels and is great fun.

A game that is so simple should not get you thinking so hard, but it does.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 6.0 | Free | v1.0.0  
● Android | OS 2.1 | Free | v1.0.2



## LARA CROFT: RELIC RUN

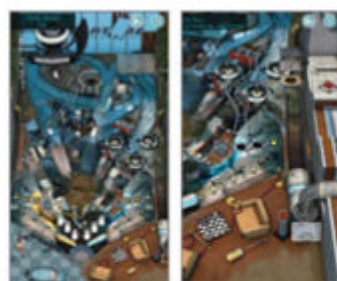


When you pick up and play *Lara Croft: Relic Run*, you may feel like you have played it before. It is a traditional running game in how the main character moves and is controlled not unlike the *Temple Run* series of games, but it looks sublime and for whatever reason we found ourselves playing with it for much longer than with other runner-style games. There is a lot to enjoy here once you dig deep in to it.

You may have seen most of this before, but it is one of the best runners yet.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0  
| Freemium | v1.0  
● Android | OS 2.3  
| Freemium | v1.0.32



## PORTAL PINBALL



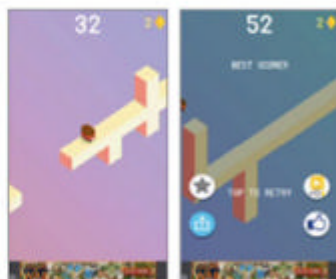
Pinball games are like Marmite in that you either love them or hate them, but *Portal*

*Pinball* does offer an experience which should appeal to more people. A lot is happening at any one time and there are moments when it really does feel like a real-life pinballing experience. You will need to spend some time with it so that you can understand everything that is happening.

One of the better pinball games, but it struggles a little on the small screen.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 6.0  
| £1.49/\$1.99 | v1.0  
● Android | OS 4.0  
| £1.57/\$1.99 | v1.0



## THE BRANCH



The graphics are retro and cute, and the gameplay is fast and furious which

both work well in a mobile game. However, the adverts can at times be far too intrusive and you cannot pay to remove them. This creates a slightly disjointed experience which is a shame because the premise of having to jump around obstacles is very good and a hell of a lot of fun.

A great platform game which can feel unnecessarily disjointed at times.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 6.0  
| Freemium | v1.0  
● Android | OS 4.0  
| Freemium | v1.01



## MARVEL CONTEST OF CHAMPIONS



We can't fault *Contest of Champions'* graphics or the immersive

atmosphere in this combat game, with realistic characters and long-term play stars of Marvel. However, the actual combat system does feel rather repetitive and does not live up to the rest of the experience. It feels as though a lot of work has gone into the aesthetics with the game play left to the last minute.

A visual feast of a game with a combat system that needs a lot more variety.

★★★★★

● iPad+ | iOS 7.0  
| Freemium | v3.0.2  
● Android | OS 4.0  
| Freemium | v3.0.1

TOP 05  
apps to...

## WORD GAMES



### 01 COOLSON'S POCKET PACK



With lovely visuals and a jolly soundtrack, this app stands out from the crowd and it is crazy addictive to boot. Make short words and prevent the falling tiles from stacking.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v1.0.1

### 02 LETTERCRAFT



Make the longest words you possibly can in this game spanning 70 levels but don't ponder too much - tiles begin to disappear if you don't use them in time.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0  
| Freemium | v1.1.1

### 03 SLEEP FURIOUSLY



This inventive game asks players to combine the many words placed on a large grid into odd, yet grammatical sentences. As you do so, you create dreams for the in-game linguist.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 5.1.1  
| £2.29/\$2.99 | v1.1.2  
● Android | OS 2.3  
| £2.39/\$2.99 | v1.1.2

### 04 WORDS WITH FRIENDS



Claimed to be the most popular mobile word game, this app has been around a while but it continues to be updated and is now available on the Apple Watch.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 7.0 | Free | v2.9  
● Android | OS 2.3 | Free | v7.6.1

### 05 SPELLTOWER



This lovely game asks you to find words in a lettered grid. When the tiles are used they disappear and the grid drops, making for a changing gaming area.

★★★★★

● iPhone+ | iOS 5.0  
| £1.49/\$1.99 | v3.1.3  
● Android | OS 2.2  
| £1.32/\$1.99 | v1.17



# ORGANISE YOUR PICTURES WITH GOOGLE PHOTOS

» Sort photos and HD videos, create collages and auto-enhances images with Google's unlimited cloud store

How do you store the photos you take on your Android or iOS device? Do you use a third-party gallery app? Maybe you save them directly to the cloud? No matter what your chosen solution is, Google are looking to usurp them all with the release of their *Photos* app. Not to be mistaken with the previous *Photos* app launch we saw a while back, this version of *Photos* combines the best elements of storing your treasured snaps, with a full editing suite. Dig a little deeper and you'll also be able to find a fantastic creation tool, where users are able to create albums, collages and even animations of their favourite images.

As ever, the app ties in well with many of Google's other apps, so if you're a keen user of *Google Drive* in particular, you'll find seamless integration from transporting and saving your images. You'll be using the *Google Drive* functionality a whole lot more when you start creating albums and animations. Although these look great, they take up a fair amount of internal storage, so moving them to the cloud is highly recommended. But that's not to say iCloud users will be left in the dark, as the *Photos* app can also be put in sync with your iCloud account whenever you need it - as well as some of the leading third-party cloud storage systems out there.

It's all about ease of use with Google, and *Photos* ticks all the right boxes. There are a ton of exciting features to check out within the *Photos* app. You'll want to use the below steps to get hands on with some of the best features that *Photos* has to offer.

## » USING THE SEARCH FUNCTION

> How to find a particular photo that you've taken

### Sort by places

When you search for a photo, you'll be shown various albums based on specific locations. The photos within will include the same geotags.

### Sync with Drive

Select the *Google Drive* option to open your Drive account and manually find any image that's currently stored in the cloud.

### Switch to video

As well as images, *Photos* also includes video support. Select the Videos option to perform a search for your videos.

### Specific topics


Some photos will also be tagged by specific things, but tend to be fairly generalised; the photos within these albums will have been automatically tagged by Google.

About the app...

## PHOTOS

An all-in-one solution for your image storing needs

• iPhone+ iOS 8.1 | Free | v1.0.1  
• Android OS 4.0 | Free | v1.0.0.9

 *Photos* faces some stiff competition on both iOS and Android, but the amount of features it offers is breathtaking. Not only do you have access to a secure place to store your images, but also the ability to create animations, collages and albums without the need of a third-party app. While we felt that the interface can be a bit clunky, and storage is restricted to images that are below 16 megapixels (anything higher is compressed), Google has provided one of the best photo-storage solutions that we've seen - best of all, it's completely free.

**In need of a new photo storage app? Get this now. It's bundled with impressive features.**

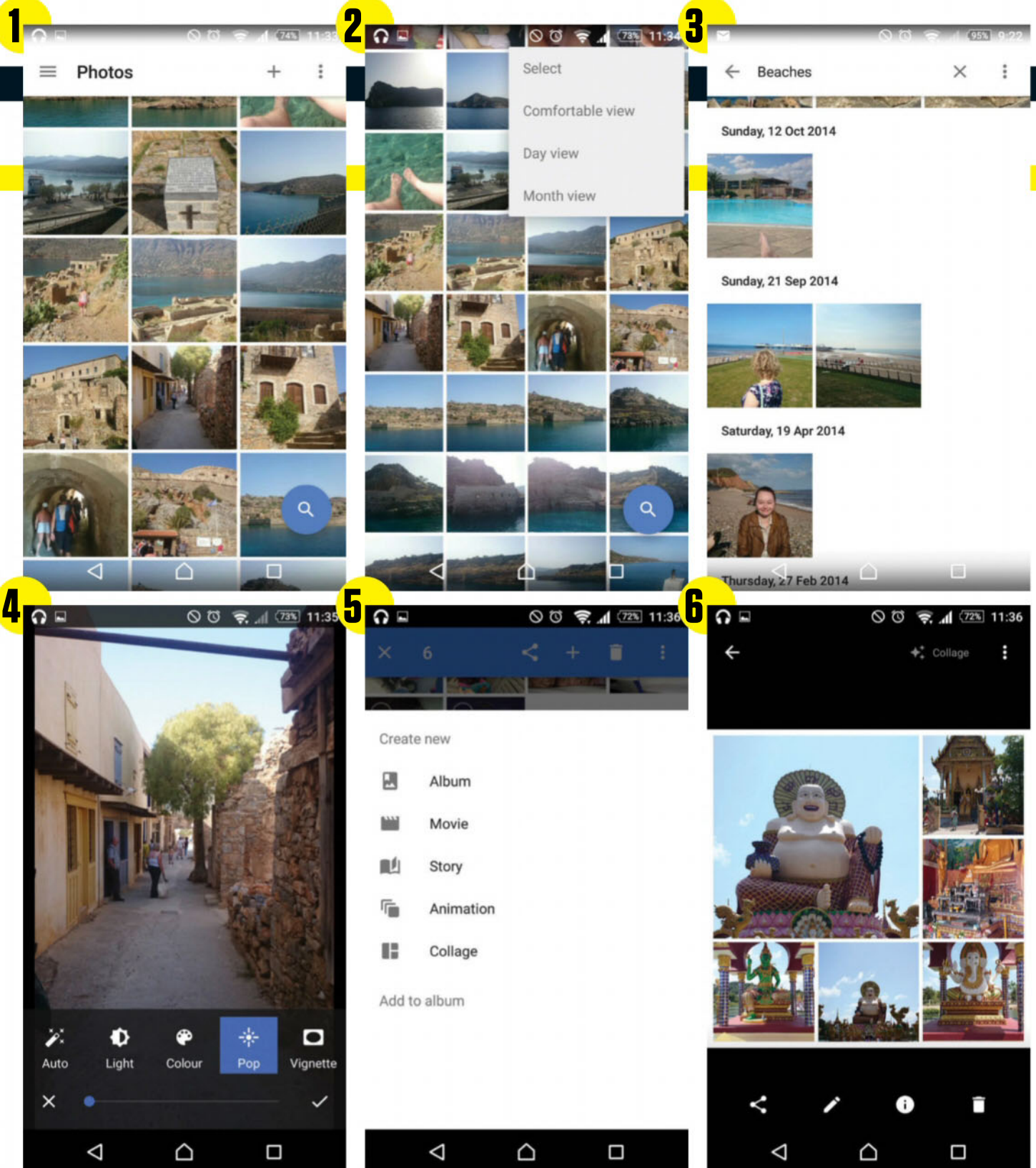
★★★★★



READ OUR FULL-LENGTH GOOGLE PHOTOS REVIEW ON PAGE 27

"If you're a keen user of *Google Drive* in particular, you'll find seamless integration from transporting and saving your images"





## » PHOTOS > Explore the Photos app

### 1 GET AN OVERVIEW

By default, the *Photos* app will open up to a panel-styled menu, where your photos will be sectioned off by the month they're taken. Images without a date are stored at the bottom.

### 4 START EDITING

Once you've chosen an image, press the pencil icon to open the Edits page. From here you'll be able to auto-adjust the image, add filters, tweak the colour levels and even fix blurry sections of your chosen photo.

### 2 SWITCH VIEWS

Press on the menu icon to choose from various other views. We recommend the 'Day view' option as it makes it far easier to take a closer look at your images, without opening them.

### 5 WHAT TO CREATE?

Go back to the album view and select multiple images by selecting one and quickly swiping your finger over them, before pressing the + icon. You can now choose to put these images into a collage, animation or specified album.

### 3 PERFORM A SEARCH

Use the magnifying glass at the bottom right of the app to start a search. You can use this feature to search for keywords that are attached to an image, or by the location they were taken in.

### 6 THE FINISHED PRODUCT

You'll now be able to see the finished product on your screen display. Users can then choose to save this directly onto their *Photos* timeline, share it with their contacts or simply upload it to the cloud if they wish.



# THE TOP 200 GREATEST APPS EVER



## WHY WE LOVE... BOATIE



*Boatie* remains an invaluable source for all those who partake in regular boating excursions. The app is set up to provide live information on the ports and oceans around the UK coastline, enabling users to make sure they're safe to travel and won't face disruptions. A must-have app for all boating fanatics.

● **iPhone+** | **iOS 7.0** | **£4.99/\$6.99** | **v4.1.0**  
● **Android** | **OS 2.2** | **£4.99/\$6.99** | **v1.22**



## WHY WE LOVE... ARTICLES



Wikipedia is one of the most visited websites in the world, but the accompanying app is a little bit clunky. *Articles* is a stunning Wikipedia reader that enables users to search and read about anything that's stored within Wikipedia. What makes the app

so interesting and different from other reading apps is the level of gestures available to use within it. For example, you can shake your device to find a random Wikipedia entry, or even tap and hold images to download.

● **iPhone+** | **iOS 6.1** | **Free** | **v2.6.1**

## WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE APP? GET IN TOUCH...

**TWEET US WITH YOUR FAVOURITE APPS**  
@Knowyourapps

**OR RECOMMEND THEM ON FACEBOOK**  
/AppsMagazine

**SEND US AN EMAIL TODAY WITH YOUR FAVOURITE APPS**  
apps@imagine-publishing.co.uk

### BOOKS

#### iPhone/iPad/Android KOBO READING APP



For functionality and design we would take *Kobo* every time. Free books and cool reading stats.

● **iOS 7.0** | **Free**  
● **Varies** | **Free**

#### iPhone/iPad iBOOKS



Apple's own native bookstore comes with iCloud features, as well as the ability to change reading settings to suit you.

● **iOS 7.0** | **Free**

#### iPhone/iPad/Android GOODREADS



A great app for book recommendations, *Goodreads* also has wishlists and social links.

● **iOS 7.0** | **Free**  
● **OS 1.6** | **Free**

#### iPhone/iPad CHOPSTICKS NOVEL



In this novel experience you are given bits of people's lives as you weave the story together in your own mind.

● **iOS 6.0** | **£4.99/\$6.99**

#### iPad THE FANTASTIC FLYING BOOKS OF MR. MORRIS LESSMORE



Breathtaking visuals and a heartwarming story. Essential.

● **iOS 5.1** | **£3.99/\$4.99**

#### iPad THE WASTE LAND



Discover TS Eliot's epic and revolutionary poem, view interactive notes and watch related videos.

● **iOS 5.0** | **£10.49/\$13.99**

#### iPhone/iPad iPOE 2



Interactive illustrations and music bring the macabre magic of Edgar Allan Poe's haunting poetry to life.

● **iOS 5.1** | **£3.99/\$4.99**

#### iPhone/iPad/Android COMICS



A convenient portal to read over 12,000 comics, and over 500 of them are absolutely free.

● **iOS 6.0** | **Free**  
● **OS 2.2** | **Free**

#### iPhone/iPad/Android FRANKENSTEIN



The classic horror story is brought back to life in this interactive adaptation.

● **iOS 4.3** | **£2.99/\$4.99**  
● **OS 4.0** | **£3.99/\$4.99**

#### iPhone/iPad/Android AUDIOBOOKS FROM AUDIBLE



Part of the Amazon family, so you have plenty of choice.

● **iOS 7.0** | **Free**  
● **Varies** | **Free**

### BUSINESS

#### iPhone/Android CAMCARD



Scan business cards for easy storage and import contact details direct to your address book.

● **iOS 7.0** | **£0.79/\$0.99**  
● **Varies** | **£0.60/\$0.99**

#### iPhone/iPad/Android IPASSWORD



Store your passwords for your favourite website and more with this secure app.

● **iOS 8.0** | **Freemium**  
● **OS 4.1** | **Freemium**

#### iPhone/iPad/Android LOGMEIN



Remotely access your desktop from your mobile so you can take your business on the go.

● **iOS 6.0** | **Freemium**  
● **OS 2.3** | **Freemium**

#### iPhone/iPad SAYHI TRANSLATE



Speak into this app and have your words translated into 40 languages, either spoken back to you or sent as a message.

● **iOS 6.1** | **£3.99/\$4.99**

#### iPhone/iPad RESUME EXPRESS



Create a stunning CV with this step-by-step app that creates a polished final product that can be easily exported.

● **iOS 6.0** | **£1.49/\$1.99**

#### iPad MEETING MINUTES



Schedule meetings, plan seating, save notes and record your minutes all in this one, very comprehensive app.

● **iOS 6.0** | **£3.99/\$4.99**

#### iPhone/Android JAMES CAAN BUSINESS SECRETS



Find out about hiring staff, raising money and more in this app.

● **iOS 7.0** | **Free**  
● **OS 2.3** | **Free**

#### iPhone/iPad SCANNER PRO BY READDLE



Turn your iPhone into a portable scanner. Snap a photo of a document to create a PDF and export to Dropbox.

● **iOS 7.0** | **£2.29/\$2.99**

#### iPhone/iPad HOW TO TIE A TIE ANIMATED GUIDE



Top tips and AR projection for tying 30 nifty knots – perfect for any occasion.

● **iOS 7.1** | **£3.99/\$4.99**

#### iPhone/iPad DRAGON DICTATION



This app instantly translates the spoken word into text. Send yourself notes and reminders.

● **iOS 4.0** | **Free**  
● **OS 2.2** | **Free**

### EDUCATION

#### iPad THE ELEMENTS: A VISUAL EXPLORATION



View rotatable 3D images of every element in the periodic table.

● **iOS 7.0** | **£10.49/\$13.99**

#### iPhone/iPad/Android STAR WALK



This AR app helps you explore the stars, planets and constellations in the night sky.

● **iOS 6.0** | **£2.29/\$2.99**  
● **OS 4.0** | **£1.79/\$2.99**

#### iPhone/iPad KHAN ACADEMY



A library of over 3,000 videos enables users to learn pretty much anything they want, no matter their interests.

● **iOS 7.0** | **Free**

#### iPhone/iPad iTUNES U



One of the most powerful educational tools around, with full university courses available direct on your device.

● **iOS 7.0** | **Free**

#### iPhone/iPad/Android TED



Regular programming with remarkable speakers and lectures for free via this learning app.

● **iOS 8.0** | **Free**  
● **OS 4.0** | **Free**

#### iPad DK THE HUMAN BODY APP



Takes you on a journey deep into the human body, with video content and annotated graphics. A fine iPad app.

● **iOS 4.0** | **£4.99/\$6.99**

#### iPhone/iPad/Android HENRI LE WORM



Top chef Raymond Blanc and actor Simon Pegg teach children about cooking.

● **iOS 6.0** | **£1.49/\$1.99**  
● **OS 4.0** | **£1.29/\$2.12**

#### iPad NHM EVOLUTION



Explore 600 million years of evolution with a fossil timeline and multimedia treatments that explain the science.

● **iOS 4.3** | **£10.49/\$13.99**

#### iPhone/iPad/Android DUOLINGO



Learn a new language for free, from grammar basics to translating entire websites.

● **iOS 7.0** | **Free**  
● **Varies** | **Free**

#### iPhone/iPad NASA VISUALIZATION EXPLORER



Everything NASA in one place, including news on missions and stunning imagery.

● **iOS 5.1** | **Free**

### ENTERTAINMENT

#### iPhone/iPad/Android NETFLIX



Cross-device viewing thanks to the cloud. An absolute must for subscribers to the service.

● **iOS 7.0** | **Free**  
● **Varies** | **Free**

#### iPhone/iPad/Android PLEX



Stream music and video from your desktop, and enjoy content from *Plex's* channels.

● **iOS 5.1.1** | **£3.99/\$4.99**  
● **OS 3.2** | **Freemium**

#### iPad PROCREATE



Paints, inks and abstract shapes are all readily available, so you can achieve just the effect you're looking for.

● **iOS 8.1** | **£4.49/\$5.99**

#### iPhone/iPad SNEAK



In this game you literally have to sneak up on your phone from a distance to capture photos of the shy monsters.

● **iOS 5.0** | **£1.49/\$1.99**

#### iPhone/Android iPLAYER RADIO



So much more than an extension of the iPlayer catch-up service, with a great interface.

● **iOS 6.1** | **Free**  
● **OS 4.0** | **Free**

#### iPhone/iPad REMOTE



This handy app lets you connect to iTunes wirelessly and play music and movies that are on your Mac or PC.

● **iOS 7.0** | **Free**

#### iPhone/iPad HAUNTING MELISSA



A horror movie for the mobile era, the producer of *The Ring* directs this experimental but highly gripping ghost story.

● **iOS 7.1** | **Freemium**

#### iPhone/iPad ACTION MOVIE FX



Give your home videos some truly epic Hollywood effects with this brilliant free app for your iOS device.

● **iOS 5.0** | **Freemium**

#### iPhone/iPad/Android VLC STREAMER



The streaming service lets you share media from your desktop to your device.

● **iOS 6.0** | **£1.49/\$1.99**  
● **OS 4.0** | **£1.35/\$1.99**

#### iPhone/iPad MORFO 3D FACE BOOTH



Make talking 3D masks of absolutely anyone with this clever, customisable app. Then share the results via email.

● **iOS 4.3** | **£0.79/\$0.99**



## FINANCE

**iPhone/ iPad**  
**POCKETMONEY**

The price you pay for this app is fully justified, thanks to its superior functionality and the useful tips it divulges.

● OS 1.6 | £3.10/\$4.99

**iPhone/ Android**  
**PAYPAL**

Check your current balance, view your account and send money via 16 currencies.

● iOS 7.1 | Free  
● OS 24.0 | Free

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**MONEYWIZ**

One of the best finance managers around, with easy-to-use functions.

● iOS 7.0 | £3.99/\$4.99  
● OS 2.3.3 | £1.55/\$1.99

**iPhone/ Android**  
**BLOOMBERG BUSINESS**

Bloomberg is a must for city traders and anyone who is interested in the stock market.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● OS 2.2 | Free

**iPhone/ iPad**  
**DEBT MANAGER**

Offers a clean, simple interface so you can visualise your debt, organise your incomings and outgoings, and pay it off.

● iOS 4.0 | £0.79/\$0.99

**iPhone/ iPad**  
**ISPREADSHEET**

Compatible with Excel, Google Docs and Open Office – manage all of your finances on the go with this app.

● iOS 6.0 | £2.29/\$2.99

**iPad/ Android**  
**BILLS**

Track your incomings and outgoings by filtering paid, planned and overdue payments.

● iOS 5.0 | £0.79/\$0.99  
● OS 1.6 | £1.33/\$1.99

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**SPENDING TRACKER**

Monitor your spending and save money thanks to the charts, graphs and stats in this app.

● iOS 7.0 | Freemium  
● Varies | Freemium

**iPhone/ Android**  
**BARCLAYS PINGIT**

Send money between accounts, using just a mobile number, from your device.

● iOS 6.0 | Free  
● OS 2.3 | Free

**iPhone/ iPad**  
**MORTGAGE MENTOR**

Compare mortgages side-by-side, work out what the true price would be and manage all of your payments.

● iOS 4.0 | £1.49/\$1.99

## FOOD &amp; DRINK

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**JAMIE'S 20 MINUTE MEALS**

Step-by-step photo recipes, plus extra kitchen tips such as how to sharpen knives.

● iOS 3.1.2 | £4.99/\$6.99  
● OS 2.3.0 | £1.99/\$7.69

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**OPENTABLE UK**

Find and book a restaurant table in a few taps, whether last minute or planned.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● OS 2.3.3 | Free

**iPhone**  
**OTTOLENGHI**

An absolute must for all foodies, this app features mouth-watering full-screen photos and some clever features.

● iOS 5.0 | £2.99/\$4.99

**iPhone/ iPad**  
**HOW TO COOK EVERYTHING ESSENTIALS**

The app that's perfect for any level of experience, from oven wizards to toast burners.

● iOS 6.1 | Freemium

**iPhone/ iPad**  
**THE PHOTO COOKBOOK – QUICK & EASY**

With images of every ingredient and steps to each recipe, it couldn't be easier to follow.

● iOS 5.0 | £2.99/\$3.99

**iPhone/ Android**  
**FOODSPOTTING**

An essential destination for when you want something different and great to eat.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Varies | Free

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**PAPRIKA RECIPE MANAGER**

File away your favourite web recipes in this dedicated cooking database.

● iOS 7.0 | £3.99/\$4.99  
● OS 4.0 | £3.17/\$4.99

**iPhone/ iPad**  
**GREEN KITCHEN – HEALTHY VEGETARIAN RECIPES**

A stylish interface and inspiring recipes prove healthy eating doesn't need to be bland.

● iOS 7.1 | £3.99/\$4.99

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**EPICURIOUS RECIPES & SHOPPING LIST**

An essential app for culinary masters and budding chefs alike.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● OS 2.3 | Free

**iPad**  
**COOK**

Create your own recipe book, complete with customisable colours and fonts, then share it with your friends online.

● iOS 7.0 | Free

## GAMES

**iPhone/iPad/ Android**  
**HEARTHSTONE**

Cast spells in this online card game from the makers of *World Of Warcraft*.

● iOS 5.1 | Freemium  
● OS 4.0 | Freemium

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**ASPHALT 8: AIRBORNE**

Perform high-octane aerial stunts to get the edge on other racers in this arcade game.

● iOS 6.1.6 | Freemium  
● OS 4.0 | Freemium

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**MONUMENT VALLEY**

Guide your character through a mind-bending world of impossible architecture.

● iOS 6.0 | £2.99/\$3.99  
● OS 2.3.3 | £2.49/\$3.99

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**ANOMALY 2**

Protect your convoy of troops and attack alien invaders in this top-down strategy game.

● iOS 5.0 | £3.99/\$4.99  
● OS 2.3 | £3.39/\$4.99

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**HITMAN GO**

Eliminate your enemies as Agent 47 in this puzzle gem from the creators of *Hitman*.

● iOS 6.0 | £3.99/\$4.99  
● OS 2.3.3 | £2.99/\$4.99

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**BOSON X**

A mix of fast-paced fun and subatomic style makes this endless runner very addictive.

● iOS 4.3 | £2.29/\$2.99  
● OS 2.3.3 | £1.92/\$2.99

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**GRAND THEFT AUTO: SAN ANDREAS**

Control the criminal underworld in this epic mobile version.

● iOS 6.0 | £4.99/\$6.99  
● OS 3.0 | £4.99/\$6.99

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**FM HANDHELD 2015**

Master tactics to climb up the leagues and sign players to make the best team.

● iOS 5.0 | £7.99/\$8.99  
● OS 2.3.3 | £6.99/\$9.99

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**MINECRAFT – POCKET EDITION**

Create your own personal *Minecraft* world, block by block.

● iOS 5.1.1 | £4.99/\$6.99  
● Varies | £4.99/\$6.99

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**REPUBLICUE**

Escape from a prison in this stealth-action adventure. Solve puzzles to earn your freedom.

● iOS 7.0 | £3.99/\$4.99  
● OS 4.0 | £3.21/\$4.99

## HEALTH

**iPhone/ Android**  
**ENDOMONDO**

*Endomondo* is the most social fitness experience around and covers a wide range of sports.

● iOS 7.0 | Freemium  
● Varies | Freemium

**iPhone/ Android**  
**ZOMBIES, RUN!**

Run to stay alive in a world infested with zombies in this immersive AR workout.

● iOS 7.0 | £2.99/\$3.99  
● OS 4.0 | £2.99/\$3.99

**iPhone/ iPad**  
**CARDIOGRAPH**

Simply hold your thumb over your device's camera lens to monitor and track your heart rate.

● iOS 7.0 | £1.49/\$1.99

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**CALORIE COUNTER**

Your ultimate calorie guide with a massive database as well as exercises and social links.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Varies | Free

**iPhone/ Android**  
**NIKE+ RUNNING**

This app requires a pair of Nike shoes that have an insert for the Nike+ sensor.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● OS 2.3.3 | Free

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**YOU ARE YOUR OWN GYM**

Military-grade workout app that requires no fitness equipment bar your device.

● iOS 5.0 | £2.29/\$2.99  
● OS 2.2 | £1.99/\$2.99

**iPhone/ Android**  
**7 MINUTE WORKOUT CHALLENGE**

A fast-paced work out with exercises, videos and tracker.

● iOS 7.0 | £2.29/\$2.99  
● OS 2.3.3 | £1.29/\$1.94

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**MOVES**

*Moves* automatically tracks your everyday exercise to motivate you to do more and set goals.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● OS 4.0 | Free

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**RUNTASTIC PUSH-UPS PRO**

Plan your workout in this stylish app and receive motivation from the voice coach.

● iOS 7.0 | £1.99/\$1.99  
● Varies | £1.99/\$1.99

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**HEALTHTAP**

Post your concern and a qualified doctor will respond with a diagnosis fairly swiftly.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● OS 4.0 | Free

## LIFESTYLE

**iPhone/ iPad**  
**SNAPGUIDE**

This community-driven guidebook is a wonderful resource. Browse its many topics and get all sorts of handy tips.

● iOS 7.0 | Free

**iPhone/ iPad**  
**DAY ONE JOURNAL**

Record your life with this magazine-like app for your memories, ideas and photos. Share online or keep private.

● iOS 8.0 | £3.99/\$4.99

**iPhone/ Android**  
**START BY TACK**

Minimalist alarm clock and stopwatch that launches set apps when you wake.

● iOS 5.0 | £3.99/\$5.99  
● OS 3.0 | £0.65/\$0.99

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**FANCY**

Searching and sharing items on *Fancy* is all about becoming a curator of cool.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● OS 2.3.3 | Free

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**AROUNDME**

This is a handy app to use in an unfamiliar place when you need to find local amenities.

● iOS 5.1.1 | Free  
● OS 2.3 | Free

**iPhone/ iPad**  
**ICONICAL**

Create your own bespoke icons for your apps either by painting a design in-app or by uploading an image.

● iOS 7.0 | £1.49/\$1.99

**iPad**  
**eBAY FOR IPAD**

This app is not only great to keep up with your shopping, but also a wonderful place to browse for bargains.

● iOS 7.0 | Free

**iPad**  
**MARTHA STEWART CRAFTSTUDIO**

Create decorative cards in-app with hints and tips provided by Martha herself.

● iOS 7.0 | Freemium

**iPad**  
**WEDDING PLANNER FOR IPAD**

Plan everything, from your big day's budget to the colour scheme and the seating plan with this detailed wedding app.

● iOS 7.0 | £7.99/\$9.99

**iPhone/ iPad**  
**IA WRITER**

Aspiring novelist? This is the perfect space to express yourself in a clean, distraction-free environment.

● iOS 7.1 | £3.99/\$4.99

## MEDICAL

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**VISUAL ANATOMY**

View rotatable 3D images from *Gray's Anatomy* of selected organs or regions of the body.

● iOS 6.0 | £2.29/\$2.99  
● OS 2.0 | £1.60/\$2.69

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**VISION TEST**

This app tests your vision through a series of exams, and includes an optician finder.

● iOS 6.0 | Free  
● OS 2.2 | Free

**iPad**  
**SKELETON SYSTEM PRO III**

This dissection of the human skeleton goes into incredible detail with plenty of room for adding your own notes.

● iOS 7.0 | £7.99/\$9.99

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**PREGNANCY+**

Monitor your baby's development week by week and log doctor's appointments.

● iOS 7.0 | Freemium  
● OS 3.0 | Freemium

**iPhone/ iPad**  
**SNORELAB**

Worried about how much you snore? Find out how loud you sound with this app, then get tips on how to reduce it.

● iOS 7.0 | £3.99/\$4.99

**iPhone/ iPad**  
**uHEAR**

As hearing loss usually happens over a period of time, *uHear* is a good app for monitoring your hearing.

● iOS 4.3 | Free

**iPhone/ iPad/ Android**  
**PROGNOSIS: YOUR DIAGNOSIS**

Uses case studies for better diagnosis in patients by doctors.

● iOS 6.0 | Free  
● OS 2.3.3 | Free

**iPhone/ Android**  
**BREATHING ZONE**

Reduce stress and see your breathing patterns displayed in colourful graphics.

● iOS 5.1 | £2.99/\$3.99  
● OS 2.2 | £1.99/\$3.99

**iPad**  
**HEART PRO III**

Lifelike depictions of the heart and circulatory system that can be rotated 360° to appreciate its complexity.

● iOS 7.0 | £7.99/\$9.99

**iPhone/ iPad**  
**FAMILY ILLNESS AND SHOT TRACKER**

Keep a digital diary of your family's shots, vaccinations, medicines, illnesses and more.

● iOS 3.1.3 | £1.49/\$1.99



# THE TOP 200 GREATEST APPS EVER

## WHAT'S HOT?

### WAZE SOCIAL GPS



Receive step-by-step directions for travelling anywhere.

● iOS 6.0 | Free  
● Varies | Free

### DOWNCAST



Curate your own personalised podcast stream in a matter of minutes.

● iOS 7.1 | £2.29/\$2.99

### FLICKR



Upload and manage your entire photo library on Flickr's servers.

● iOS 8.0 | Free  
● Varies | Free

### IF BY IFTTT



Automate how your smartphone works with your installed apps.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● OS 4.0.3 | Free

### HILL LISTS



The ultimate accompaniment for budding trekkers.

● iOS 6.0 | £1.49/\$1.99

## WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE APP? GET IN TOUCH...



TWEET US WITH  
YOUR FAVOURITE APPS  
@Knowyourapps



OR RECOMMEND  
THEM ON FACEBOOK  
/AppsMagazine



SEND US AN EMAIL TODAY  
WITH YOUR FAVOURITE APPS  
apps@imagine-publishing.co.uk

## MUSIC

### iPhone/iPad GARAGEBAND



Use simple gestures to play piano, organ, guitar and drums. Upload tracks to YouTube, SoundCloud and more.

● iOS 8.0 | £3.99/\$4.99

### iPhone/iPad FIGURE



Make music in minutes with this easy-to-use interface. Export results to iTunes Audio Sharing.

● iOS 7.0 | £0.79/\$0.99

### iPad/Android DJAY 2



Take tracks from your library and start mixing them together on this brilliant turntable app.

● iOS 7.0 | £6.99/\$7.99  
● OS 4.1 | £2.99/\$4.99

### iPad THE ORCHESTRA



Explore three centuries of classical music with this interactive mix of music as well as video content.

● iOS 7.0 | £10.49/\$13.99

### iPhone/iPad/Android SPOTIFY MUSIC



Build customised playlists from millions of tracks and share them with the world.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Varies | Free

### iPhone/iPad/Android SOUNDHOUND



Hum a tune or sing a lyric and SoundHound will give you the full name of the song and artist.

● iOS 7.0 | Freemium  
● Varies | Freemium

### iPhone/Android SOUNDWAVE



Discover new music with this running feed of what everyone is listening to.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● OS 2.3 | Free

### iPhone/Android SHAZAM



An extraordinary app, Shazam can identify songs by listening to them for a few seconds.

● iOS 7.0 | Freemium  
● Varies | Freemium

### iPhone/iPad/Android TIDAL



Enjoy high definition music streaming and playlists chosen by music industry experts.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● OS 4.1 | Free

### iPad AWEDITORIUM



Quite literally a wall of sound for users to interact with, as each 'brick' hosts an artist, their music and cool photos.

● iOS 7.0 | Free

## NAVIGATION

### iPhone/iPad/Android GOOGLE MAPS



Back on iOS and still the undisputed king of the mapping world. This app is all you need.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Varies | Free

### iPhone/Android PLANE FINDER



View near real-time air traffic maps that let you track the paths of aircraft above you.

● iOS 7.0 | £2.99/\$3.99  
● OS 2.2 | £2.99/\$2.99

### iPhone/Android GEOCACHING



Join the world's biggest treasure hunt by becoming a Geocacher. It's great fun.

● iOS 7.0 | £7.99/\$9.99  
● Varies | £6.99/\$9.99

### iPhone HOPSTOP TRANSIT DIRECTIONS



Get real-time subway, bus, train, taxi, walking and biking directions in an instant.

● iOS 6.0 | Freemium

### iPhone MAPS 3D PRO - GPS TRACKS FOR BIKE, HIKE, SKI & OUTDOOR



Ideal for the mountains: view 3D maps and plan your route.

● iOS 7.0 | £3.99/\$4.99

### iPhone/iPad/Android WAZE SOCIAL GPS, MAPS & TRAFFIC



Get instant travel updates from other users on the road.

● iOS 6.0 | Free  
● Varies | Free

### iPhone/iPad SPYGLASS



Augmented reality navigator and compass that lets you track your location and work out bearings in real-time.

● iOS 6.1 | £2.99/\$3.99

### iPhone/iPad HILL LISTS



Provides geographical details for highland, hilltop and mountain walks across the UK and Republic of Ireland.

● iOS 6.0 | £1.49/\$1.99

### iPhone KAMINO



Explore your city with these user-generated walking tours with turn-by-turn directions or share your own with others.

● iOS 7.0 | Free

### iPhone/iPad/Android VIEWRANGER OUTDOOR GPS & MAPS



Get off the beaten track with this map app, ideal for planning hikes.

● iOS 5.1 | Freemium  
● Varies | Freemium

## NEWS

### iPhone/iPad/Android FLIPBOARD



It's not only one of the best news apps around, it's also great fun to use on your device.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Varies | Free

### iPhone/iPad/Android BBC NEWS



This app lets you watch live news feeds over Wi-Fi, so you can always stay informed.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Varies | Free

### iPhone/iPad/Android POCKET CASTS



Stay up-to-date with all the latest podcasts with one easy-to-use cross-platform download.

● iOS 8.0 | £2.99/\$3.99  
● OS 4.1 | £2.49/\$3.99

### iPhone/iPad/Android POCKET



Pocket lets you save any article, image or video you find online for you to view it later.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Varies | Free

### iPhone/iPad DOWNCAST



Download and listen to your favourite podcasts directly from your iPhone or iPad without the need to sync with iTunes.

● iOS 7.1 | £2.29/\$2.99

### iPhone/iPad/Android LINKEDIN PULSE



With a focus on business news, tailor this reader to follow all of your favourite RSS feeds.

● iOS 8.0 | Free  
● Varies | Free

### iPhone/iPad/Android INSTAPAPER



Save feature articles and blog posts for later offline reading in this paper-like reader.

● iOS 8.0 | Freemium  
● Varies | Freemium

### iPad SKY NEWS FOR IPAD



Watch live streams from the TV station in the palm of your hands. Feature-rich, brimming with content and totally free.

● iOS 6.0 | Freemium

### iPhone/Android YAHOO NEWS DIGEST



Get twice-daily summaries of the top news stories, complete with infographics.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● OS 4.0 | Free

### iPhone/iPad PEEKSTER



Scan articles in select newspapers to create a digital version on your iPhone, which you can save for later or share online.

● iOS 7.0 | Freemium

## PHOTO & VIDEO

### iPhone/iPad/Android YOUTUBE



Stream videos from the popular website, now with voice search and picture to picture.

● iOS 6.0 | Free  
● Varies | Free

### iPhone/iPad iMOVIE



Apple's official video-editing app makes it easy to fine-tune the videos you shoot on the go with simple gesture controls.

● iOS 8.0 | £3.99/\$4.99

### iPhone/iPad/Android ADOBE PHOTOSHOP TOUCH



Edit images on the go with a range of touch-control tools using this essential software.

● iOS 8.0 | £3.99/\$4.99  
● OS 4.0 | £2.99/\$9.99

### iPhone/Android INSTAGRAM



With a wide range of cool filters and a great community you can create amazing photos.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Varies | Free

### iPhone/iPad HALFTONE 2



Create a comic book starring your friends and family by applying speech bubbles and borders to images.

● iOS 7.0 | £1.49/\$1.99

### iPhone/iPad/Android CAMERA ZOOM FX



Take up to ten shots per second with this high-speed snapper, then apply filters to photos.

● iOS 7.0 | £2.99/\$3.99  
● OS 1.6 | £1.79/\$2.99

### iPhone/iPad/Android SNAPSEED



This app has quite simply become the go-to image editing app across all devices.

● iOS 8.0 | Free  
● OS 4.1 | Free

### iPhone MEXTURES



Create and combine your own filters and textures for truly individual Instagram photos.

● iOS 7.0 | £1.49/\$1.99

### iPhone/iPad/Android FLICKR



Offering 1TB of online storage, this app is great for showcasing and sharing your best photos.

● iOS 8.0 | Free  
● Varies | Free

### iPhone/iPad/Android SEENE



Capture 3D photos and share them online or embed them on your website.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● OS 4.1 | Free



## PRODUCTIVITY

**iPhone/iPad/ Android  
EVERNOTE**

Create a note on your device and save it to the cloud, where it can be picked up and edited.

● iOS 7.0 | Freemium  
● Varies | Freemium

**iPhone/iPad/ Android  
DROPBOX**

Access your images, documents or any other type of digital file you like, anywhere.

● iOS 7.0 | Freemium  
● OS 4.0.3 | Freemium

**iPhone/iPad  
NUMBERS**

This spreadsheet was designed for your touchscreen, enabling you to calculate figures and create graphs with ease.

● iOS 8.0 | £7.99/\$9.99

**iPhone/iPad  
CLEAR**

This purely gesture-based app has one of the most innovative and intuitive interfaces of virtually any app around.

● iOS 8.0 | £3.99/\$4.99

**iPhone/iPad  
PAGES**

This versatile app lets you create, edit and view documents as well as create attractive, customised pages.

● iOS 8.0 | £7.99/\$9.99

**iPhone  
GLOBO**

Ideal for the travelling businessman, track the time in different cities around the world and set location-based alarms.

● iOS 7.0 | £0.99/\$0.99

**iPhone/iPad  
KEYNOTE**

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## REFERENCE

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● OS 2.3 | Free

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View leaderboards, lap times and exclusive news throughout the F1 season.

● iOS 6.0 | Freemium  
● OS 4.0 | Freemium

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● iOS 6.0 | Free  
● OS 4.1 | Free

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● OS 2.3.3 | Freemium

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For the amount of info at your fingertips, this app is a must for every sports fan.

● iOS 7.0 | Freemium  
● OS 4.0 | Freemium

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COACH'S EYE**

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● OS 4.1 | Freemium

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● Varies | Freemium

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● Varies | Free

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● OS 2.3.3 | £2.49/\$3.99

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● OS 2.2 | Free

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● iOS 7.0 | £1.99/\$1.99

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YAHOO! WEATHER**

This stunning app backdrops the forecast with photos of conditions in your location.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● OS 2.3 | Free

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A slick UI with a wealth of useful data, you get weather info for over 58,000 cities.

● iOS 4.3 | £0.79/\$0.99  
● OS 2.1 | £0.99/\$1.62

**iPhone/iPad  
DARK SKY**

With 24-hour and seven-day outlooks, Dark Sky specialises in incredibly accurate, minute-by-minute forecasts.

● iOS 7.0 | £2.99/\$3.99

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THE WEATHER CHANNEL**

A solid and professionally produced app, it offers very detailed info.

● iOS 7.0 | Free  
● Varies | Free

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WEATHERWISE**

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● OS 2.3.3 | Freemium

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